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WINDOW IN THE RUINS OF THE CHAPEL OF THE KNIGHTS TEMPLARS.  
AT TEMPLE COMBE, SOMERSET.



SOMERSETSHIRE

ARCHÆOLOGICAL

and

NATURAL HISTORY

SOCIETY'S PROCEEDINGS, 1870



VOL. XVI

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TAUNTON

FREDERICK MAY, HIGH STREET  
LONDON: LONGMANS GREEN READER AND DYER  
MDCCCLXXI



*Requiem \$20.00/5410  
11/20/64*

## Preface.

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The following illustrations have been presented to the Society : The Window from Stowell Manor House, and the Horsington Cross, by the Rev. Hill D. Wickham : two illustrations of the Monument in Castle Cary Churchyard, by the Rev. Canon Meade : and the Coats of Arms of Dyer and Farewell, by Mr. Jones.

The Somersetshire Glossary is printing, and will be completed with all possible speed.





# 1400912

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PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND  
NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY,  
FOR THE YEAR 1870.

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PART I

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THE Twenty-second Annual Meeting of the Society was held at WINCANTON, on Tuesday, August 23rd, 1870, under the presidency of Sir WILLIAM C. MEDLYCOTT, Bart.

The PRESIDENT thanked the members of the Society for the honour they had done him in selecting him as Chairman of the meeting. He had not attended so many meetings of the Society as he could have wished, but by the interesting annual reports which he had read, he found they had visited nearly every part of the county, and he was glad they had not omitted that little corner. They had not there a Dunster Castle, nor ruins like those of Cleve Abbey ; but he thought to-morrow they would be amply repaid by a visit to Cadbury Camp, one of the most remarkable remains in the county. One of the most interesting places in this part of the county had been already visited, namely, the Priory of Stavordale, or it might have been included in their excursions. He trusted to see a large party at Milborne Port on Thursday. At Milborne Port they had a very ancient church, as ancient, he be-

lieved, as that of Stoke-under-Ham, which was one of the finest specimens of the Norman period. The church at Milborne had, however, the additional advantage of having been recently restored. Sir William concluded by reading a passage from Macaulay, which refers to the first encounter at Wincanton between the hostile armies of the Prince of Orange and the King.

Mr. Wm. ARTHUR JONES (hon. sec.), read the following

#### REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

“Your Committee, in presenting their 22nd Annual Report, have the satisfaction to state that the operations of the Society have been well sustained during the past year, and that the volume of proceedings, which is in the press, will be in the hands of the members before long.

Many valuable additions have been made to the Museum of the Society, which is every year becoming more and more recognized as the most suitable depository for all objects calculated to illustrate the Archæology and Natural History of the county.

With a view of preserving, as far as may be, all the more interesting monuments of antiquity which are scattered over the country, your Council are strongly impressed with the necessity of placing them under the supervision of the State, and they would, therefore, recommend that a memorial be forwarded from the members of this Society to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department, to urge on Her Majesty's Ministers to take such steps as shall effectually preserve and protect the more important remains of past ages from injury and decay.

The Council have the pleasure to present the Dictionary of the Somersetshire Dialect, on which the Rev. P. Wadham Williams, and one of your secretaries, have been



Resolved "That the Reports now read be received and adopted."

Moved by Mr. BATTEN, seconded by the Rev. Canon MEADE, and carried unanimously:—"That it be an instruction to the Council, to procure a list of such memorials of the class referred to in the Report, as it will be desirable to place under the care of the State, and to obtain, if possible, the co-operation of the proprietors of these memorials, in carrying out the wishes of the Society."

On the motion of the Rev. Canon MEADE, seconded by the Rev. H. D. WICKHAM, it was resolved:—"That the Vice-Presidents be re-elected, with the addition of the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells, and Wm. Long, Esq."

Moved by Mr. P. P. BOUVERIE, seconded by the Rev. H. D. WICKHAM, and carried:—"That the Treasurers be re-elected; and that Mr. W. Arthur Jones, and Dr. Pring be the General Secretaries."

Moved by Mr. JONES, seconded by Mr. BATTEN, and carried:—"That the Local Secretaries be re-elected, with the addition of Mr. W. Ayshford Sanford, and the Rev. H. D. Wickham."

Moved by the Rev. H. H. WINWOOD, seconded by Mr. JAMES BUSH:—"That the following gentlemen be members of the Committee—Mr. W. P. Pinchard, Mr. W. Meade King, Mr. Jno. Marshall, Mr. J. F. Norman, Mr. T. Meyler, Mr. J. E. Anderdon."

Moved by Mr. JONES, seconded by the Rev. H. H. WINWOOD:—"That Mr. W. Bidgood be re-elected Curator."

At the request of the Chairman, the Rev. HILL D. WICKHAM, Rector of Horsington, read a paper, of which the following is an abstract, on

## Historical Recollections of Wincanton and its Neighbourhood.

So favoured a site as the slopes of these hills, facing the south, and overlooking the fertile and extensive valley, stretching far into Dorsetshire, was not likely to be overlooked by the Romans, during their long residence in this island, and Stuckely informs us, that an urn full of Roman coins, some of which he had seen, and implements used by the same people, were found here.

Further proof of their residence has recently been added, in digging the foundations for a farm house, on a hill side, about a mile from the town, when a tessellated pavement, painted in chequer work, was uncovered. Unfortunately it was not preserved, but some of the stone tesserae, rude and unequal in size, may be seen in our temporary museum. A large slab of freestone with edges bevelled, and ornamented with the "dog-tooth" pattern, and pedestal of the same material, were likewise found on the spot, and pronounced by a competent judge to be also Roman. The building had been destroyed by fire, as evidenced by charred wood, the ends of burnt posts, and blackened wheat. An abundant and never-failing spring flows from the hill side, —a powerful attraction to a people so fond of the bath.

Without dwelling on the subsequent settlements of the Saxons, as shown by the monosyllable "ton," or "town," the termination of many villages in the locality, and the derivation of the word "Wincanton," called in Domesday Book "Winealeton," from "Win," a height, and "Cale," the name of the river which flows below it; or the more remote occupants of the Pen Pitts, which he considered under-ground dwellings, the writer passed on to the most marked event in English history, the subjugation

and division of the country, by William the Conqueror. The manor was granted by the Norman, to one high in his favor, as Wincleton was given to Walter de Dowai, with thirty-three other manors in this county.

Before the time of the Plantagenets, it passed into the hands of the Lovells, Lords of Cary, and from them, by marriage, to the St. Maurs, and the Zouches. He would not, however, trace this part of its history, or show what side the families took in the Wars of the Roses. The last direct representative marched with Richard III to Bosworth field, and, more true than Stanley, adhered to the losing side.

A property in a distant part of the parish called "The Marsh," significant of its situation, still flooded by the river, escaped confiscation, as belonging to the mother of the attainted Lord, and was long the residence of the family of Zouche. The site is now occupied by a more modern house, probably built from the ruins of the former one at the restoration of Charles II, as over the chimney-piece in a large room on the first floor, the letters "G. T. K." and 1661, are embossed. The property then belonged to George Thomas, styled "Knight," and passed, by the marriage of his daughter Elizabeth, in 1682, to Thomas Wickham, of Horsington, whose descendant of the same name sold it at the end of the last century, to an ancestor of the present Grant Dalton, Esq. A part of the moat surrounding the residence of the Zouches still remains, and the house continues to be known as Marsh Court. There were other families of note residing in the 16th and 17th centuries in this parish.

In the account of lay subsidies, paid into the Exchequer in the 32nd of Henry VIII, we find in the tithing of Wincanton :—

Richard Zouche pays for his lands	..	50s
Thomas Hungerford for his goods	..	20s
Richd. Devyn do.	.. ..	10s

At the visitation of the Heralds' College, in 1623, John Ewens, of Wincanton, was entered as entitled to bear a coat of arms, and his pedigree is given. John Dyer, of the same place, and Robert Glyn, who married a daughter of Robert Huson, of Wincanton, are also entered.

In the immediate neighbourhood we have, in those parishes we purpose to visit, the following names entered in the books of the same visitation, as entitled to armorial bearings :—

“ Stowell,	-	Lawrence Hooper, Gent.
„	-	Richd. Daccomb, Gent.
Milborne Port,	-	Henry Gifford, Gent.
Horsington,	-	Christopher Foster, Gent., entrd.”

N.B.—Foster was his ‘alias,’ his true name being Wickham, eldest son of James Wyckham, of Horsington, by his wife, nèe Margaret Servington. See Court Roll, &c. ;

And “ Gawen	-	Ar.
Charlton	-	Wm. Pointer, Gent.
„	-	George Hussey, Gent.”

The chief Justice Dyer, whose portrait we see on the walls of this hall, and of whom we are about to hear more, was connected with this town, as by the pedigree of John Ewens, above alluded to, we find that his grand father, also John, married a daughter of Alexander Dyer, of Wincanton.

The time was now approaching when other arms were sought, than those which the Heralds' College granted,

When civil dudgeon first grew high,  
And men fell out they knew not why ;  
When hard words, jealousies, and fears,  
Set folk together by the ears,

and in those civil troubles Wincanton had some share.



Before the King raised the Royal Standard at Nottingham, on the 25th August, 1642, he sent Sir Ralph Hopton, Sir John Berkeley, and others to the west to aid the Earl of Hertford, if matters came to extremities. Hopton raised a troop of horse at his own cost, and as his residence was at Witham Friary, his troopers must have been recruited from this neighbourhood.

The Royal forces assembled at Wells, where they remained inactive, unwilling to strike the first blow, and thus they allowed a superior force to be collected from Bristol and other towns, on the heights of the Mendip, under the command of Sir John Horner and Alexander Popham. As the enemy were increasing in strength, and the loyalty of their own men was not to be depended on during this state of inaction, Lord Hertford retired to Sherborne, where he was followed and besieged for four days. The enemy then drew off to Yeovil, and he, having left a strong garrison in the Castle, retired towards the Bristol Channel, followed by the Parliamentary Army, but before he reached the coast his force had almost dispersed, and he himself, with some of his officers, passed from Minehead into Wales. He ordered Hopton to conduct the few remaining cavalry, called 100 horse, and 50 dragoons—the men he had probably raised in this neighbourhood—into Cornwall, which he effected successfully, and these men formed the nucleus of that brave army of Cornishmen, which at Stratton, Landsdowne and other places, rendered such good service in the following year to the royal cause, and with the fall of Bristol, regained all the west to the authority of Charles. At this, the most prosperous time for the King's cause, the whole of Somerset, with the exception of Taunton, was reduced to obedience.

After the self-denying ordinance was passed, and the

Parliamentary Army was remodelled, the fortune of war took a different turn in the west, as elsewhere. Sherborne Castle, which appears to have remained unmolested, was now threatened, as forces were collected at Wincanton to harass the garrison. Not much importance appears to have been attached to this force, as it is not mentioned by Clarendon, but tradition says the camp was formed on a hill about a mile from this town, on the Sherborne road. It was an active little garrison, proofs of which have often been found.

About two years ago, at the junction of two roads on the Down near Charlton Horethorn, in a little mound, a quantity of human bones were found, which were collected and interred in the churchyard.

Whilst the garrison remained in Sherborne Castle, skirmishes must have been frequent, and an attack which was made on the enemy at Wincanton, on the 1st of April, 1654, is particularly mentioned, on which occasion Sir Jno. Digby, with a brigade of horse and dragoons, made 200 prisoners, and took two colours and 300 horses, suffering but little loss. The Castle was taken by assault on the 15th of August following, by Sir Thomas Fairfax.

Mr. Wickham then entered into some details he had obtained from the MSS. at the Rolls Court, concerning the confiscation of the Gawen property at Horsington, alluded to in Phelps' History, and the supposed peculations, and "malignant" proclivities of one Benjamin Mason, the Parliamentary Commissioner, who married the daughter of George Dodington of Nether Stowey, to a branch of which family, the estate, in part, now belongs. The writer produced an item in the account Mason gave to the commissioners at Goldsmith's Hall, as follows :—

Allowance to self as Treasurer ..	£	10	9	8
For 3 journeys to London ..		180	0	0
For self and servant, and 2 horses		152	16	0
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		343	5	8

Hard measures had been dealt to the Gawens. By an act 43rd of Elizabeth, "To restrain the Queen's Majesty's subjects in due obedience," a heavy fine was placed on Thomas Gawen, who was a Roman Catholic, for not attending his parish church; and after this, being found to be a "Popish recusant," two parts out of three of the annual value of his estates, were seized for the Queen's use. On his death this was restored to his son William, by Charles I, but not long enjoyed, for being denounced by the Parliament as "a Papist in arms," the whole was confiscated. Where he fought we do not know, but his young neighbour, Thomas Wickham, great nephew of the aforesaid Christopher, was a cornet with John Byam, and other Somersetshire men, in Sir Thomas Bridge's loyal regiment, and returned to Horsington, where he long survived the civil troubles.

The Rev. Gentleman followed the course of history up to 1665, when an attempt was made to disturb Cromwell's power, on which account the owner of Zeals was brought to the scaffold. He then mentioned, in connection with the town, that the Prince of Orange passed through it, and concluded by reading a copy of a document he had discovered this spring at the Rolls Court, relating to the termination of the civil troubles, being the loyal address sent from this county to Charles II, with the sign manual of the principal gentry of Somerset.

Abate the edge of traitors, Gracious Lord,  
That would reduce these bloody days again,  
And make poor England weep in streams of blood.

Let them not live to taste this land's increase,  
That would with treason wound this fair land's peace;  
Now civil wounds are stopp'd, peace lives again,  
That she may long live here—God say "Amen."

Mr. WM. ARTHUR JONES, M.A., read a notice of Sir James Dyer, Lord Chief Justice, which is given in part ii.

Mr. T. E. ROGERS, of Yarlington, referred to the absence of any direct evidence of the identity of James Dyer, who was speaker of the short Parliament, and Judge Dyer. The probabilities amounted almost to certainty, that James Dyer, who was Speaker for that month, was the same who was afterwards Sir James Dyer, a Puisne in Queen Mary's time, and immediately afterwards Chief Justice. Yet one would have supposed that in the records of Parliament he would be called Sergeant Dyer, he having been Sergeant-at-law at that time. He threw out this point for consideration. There was one feature in the character of Judge Dyer which no one would have suspected on viewing his portrait. He was devotedly fond of music, and it is recorded of him that :—"When he was wearied with his legal labours, the only joy to repose his spirit was music sweet." Mr. Rogers then referred, among the worthies of Wincanton, to Richard Fitzjames, Bishop of London, whose nephew was Lord Chief Justice in Henry VIII's time; and Cottington, who was born at Godminster, close to Pitcome, and who had played a most important part in history during the early part of the reign of Charles I. With Laud and Strafford he conducted the whole administration, and was wise enough to get out of the scrape when his two colleagues were called to the block. The government having fallen into the hands of these three men, their counsels were called "Cabinet" Counsels, and that was the origin of the term now in use.

The Rev. Canon MEADE read a notice of "Castle Cary Church," which is given in part ii, and also of Stavordale Priory.

The Rev. J. HALE read an account of the Parish of Poyntington; and the Rev. W. BARNES a paper on "Somerset and its Language," which are given in part ii.

Votes of thanks to gentlemen who had read papers having been passed, the company visited the Church, and an old house, the residence of Mr. Biggin, in which the Prince of Orange slept on his progress through Somerset. The Local Museum, which had been arranged with great care, and enriched with a large collection of very interesting objects, attracted many visitors.

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## Evening Meeting.

Mr. CHARLES NOEL WELMAN read an interesting notice of incidents in the Civil War in Somersetshire, extracted from broad sheets published by order of Parliament.

Mr EMANUEL GREEN read an abstract of a paper on the "Civil War in Somerset."

Mr JOHN BATTEN read a paper on "Sequestrations in the Hundred of Catash," which is given in part ii.

Mr. EDWARD T. STEVENS followed with a paper on

### Flint and Stone Implements.

In the course of his interesting address, which was illustrated by many valuable specimens, he said that in almost every part of the world evidence existed of a period during which people were fain to supply their wants by means of implements formed of natural substances—such as wood, stone, bone, horn, or the teeth and claws of animals.

This period is now usually known as the "stone period ;" and he had been asked to say a few words upon it, in reference to the series of stone implements exhibited in the temporary museum that day. He desired to state, that in speaking of the stone period, he wished it to be understood that he regarded it simply as a test of culture, perhaps the best test we possess. Some savages are now living in, or have but recently emerged from, their stone period ; whilst other stone-using people lived in times so remote from our own, that history and tradition were alike silent respecting their existence, and we had to seek our information through the science of geology. Examples of stone implements, obtained from the drift, the earliest evidences of man's existence on the earth, were shown in the Museum ; so are specimens belonging to the later stone, or neolithic, period. Numerous implements were fashioned from other substances than such as possessed a conchoidal fracture, and were accordingly wrought into shape by other methods than "flaking," such as "pecking," or grinding. Then there were stone implements shown from New Zealand, and various Melanesian and Polynesian Islands, as well as from British Guiana and other localities in the New World, in which countries the use of stone implements was retained until very recently, and, indeed, in some districts is still retained. Mr. Stevens also spoke of some of the typical forms of stone implement, concluding by making some remarks upon the myths which prevail, almost universally, with reference to stone hatchets being thunderbolts, and stone arrow heads being elf-arrows ; citing the occurrence of such legends in the North of Europe, the West Indies, India, China, Japan, and the Malay peninsula. He classed such legends as myths of observation, the origin and development of which might be traced to the attempt

to explain natural phenomena. They were to be regarded as inferences from observed facts, taking the form of positive assertions, and might have originated independently in different parts of the world.

Votes of thanks to the gentlemen who had read papers, and to the President, having been passed, the meeting was closed.

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## Excursion : First Day.

A large party started from Wincanton at 10.30 a.m.

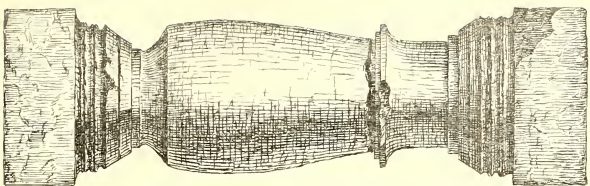
### Roman Remains.

About a mile from Wincanton, on the road towards Cadbury, the first halt was made. It was to examine the remains of a Roman villa discovered at Old Barn, the property of the Rev. S. Dendy. The excursion party were courteously welcomed and escorted by the proprietor.

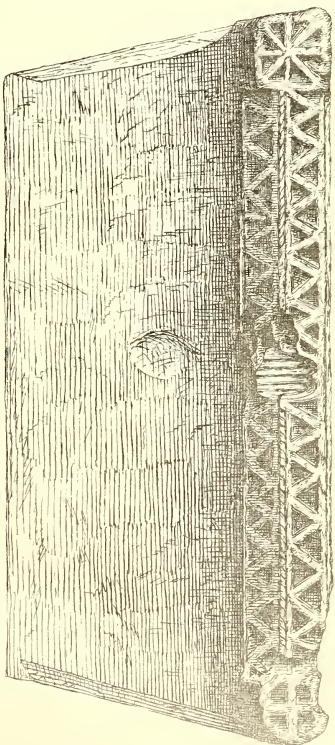
In digging out the foundations of some new farm buildings, an ornamental stone column and slab, portions of a tessellated pavement, &c., were found, about four feet below the surface. The column is about four feet in height, by ten inches in diameter, moulded, but fractured about a foot from the top. The stone slab is about three feet six inches by two feet, three edges being chamfered and ornamented, and the fourth left square and plain. The front edge was curiously carved with triangular-shaped indentations, with a scallop in the centre, and double crosses at the ends, and twisted bead borders.

In a trench, excavated at a little distance, other evidences of Roman remains were found by Mr. Winwood and Mr. Parker : A number of small tesserae, bits of black pottery,





*Height*  
*3 ft. 2 in.*



*3 ft. x 2 ft. 4 in.*

*Stone Pillar and Slab, dug up on the site of a Roman Villa, near*  
*Mineanton, Somerset*



charred wood, masses of burnt earth, in which grains of wheat were discernible, and a lozenge-shaped stone tile with remains of an iron nail, were also brought to light.

The Rev. Prebendary SCARTH said there was little doubt that this was the site of a Roman villa, and that if it could be thoroughly investigated they would find tessellated pavements here, and perhaps extending over a considerable area. Those tesserae were never found except on the site of a Roman villa; and, moreover, the site was just such an one as would be chosen. There was a good spring close at hand; it was on the declivity of a hill; and it was in a very fertile part of the country. It was about seven miles from the main Roman road; but that did not show that there was not a vicinal road near it, as villas were always situated on a good road. Mr. Scarth proceeded to show the points of resemblance between this site and that of one of the most interesting Roman villas discovered in this country—at Chedworth, near Cirencester—and also described the general appearance of such remains. The walls, when uncovered in a previously undisturbed site, were generally found to be about four feet in height; the rest of the edifice had originally been formed of a framework, filled in with wattles, similar to the “cob” walls still found in Devonshire, and other parts of the country.

Upon the site of these Roman villas there were found a great quantity of hexagonal tiles, which had covered the roofs. The area of the villas was very considerable. They were long, low buildings, sometimes taking the form of a square, and sometimes of an L. Sometimes there were three ranges of buildings, and these were again enclosed in a large quadrangle or court. Within the enclosure were found burials in stone sarcophagi or in rough clay black urns. They had found at least a dozen of those rough

urns near Bath, which were at first supposed to be ancient British, but were nothing of the kind—they were Roman. They found in Roman villas some of the coarsest pottery.

The speaker went on to describe discoveries of Roman remains near Gloucester, and at Lydney, Cirencester, and other places; and next referred to the stone column which had been found here. It was a very curious fact that nearly every villa which he had had the opportunity of seeing opened, produced one of those short pillars. He was inclined to think the present one Roman. Very lately there were some stone slabs found at Cirencester which had a pattern very much like that on the stone slab found here. Those were said to be mediæval, and not Roman; but it was proved afterwards that they were found on the level of the Roman city. Cirencester was a Roman city that was constantly producing remains. Many of the remains which were considered mediæval he believed to be Roman. He thought this pedestal, as well as the stone slab, was Roman; the pillar was turned in a lathe.

A pleasant and picturesque drive brought the excursionists to

### North Cadbury,

where the party was joined by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells, and many other members of the Society from the surrounding district.

The Rector of the parish, the Rev. H. Castlehow, kindly produced the old parish registers—two volumes in parchment, beginning with the year 1558, in excellent preservation, and full of beautifully executed initial letters. The following entry occurs in the register—"About the yeare of our Lorde 1567, in drawinge up the great bell into the tower, y<sup>t</sup> fell downe by some mischance, brake downe the loftes before y<sup>t</sup>, and brake the marbell tombe

in the bellfrye, bearynge the picture of John Fferroure, in brasse or copper, wh sometymes was Rectore of the P'sonage of this P'yish of North Cadburye, about wh tombe was wryten in brasse or copper thease words:—  
 ‘Heare lyeth the bodye of John Fferroure, sometymes parson of thys place, whiche builded this tower at his owne proper coste’—wh then was playnlye to be read of anye, and was read by me

GILES RUSSELL,  
 then minister of this p'yshe.”

### The Church,

dedicated to St. Michael, was rebuilt by Elizabeth Lady Botreaux about 1417. In restoring the chancel, a few years ago, a flat stone was found on the top of the wall plate, when the old roof was removed, with the date 1417 scratched on it, and under it a mason's chisel. The church was formerly collegiate. A copy of the charter granted by Henry V appears in Dugdale's Monasticon. The church is a fine specimen of the Early Perpendicular style, and consists of a tower, nave, chancel, north and south aisle, and north and south porch. There is a tradition in the parish that the tower was first built, and stood alone for some time. This is borne out by the appearance which the junction of the side aisles with the tower still presents. Both aisles appear to have been joined on to the tower, and of later construction. The wall of the south aisle encloses a portion of the string-course of the tower above the clerestory windows; and the north aisle encloses one of the tower buttresses with the old string-course as far upwards as the roof. There are four clustered columns on each side of the nave, and clerestory windows over them. The roof of the nave, side aisles, and chancel is of oak,

covered with lead ; and that of the nave and chancel rests on fine carved stone brackets. The reredos of Bath stone, containing the four Evangelists, in Painswick stone, coloured, and the sedilia, are new. The oak benches in the nave are unusually massive, and the ends give specimens of early carving. On the back of one bench is the date, "Anno Domini, Mill<sup>mo</sup> ccccxviii." There is an ancient stone font at the west end of the nave ; and in the tower a richly-sculptured altar tomb, with two recumbent figures upon it—a knight in armour, and a lady by his side, and at their feet a lion and a dog. There is a deeply carved canopy at the head, but no arms or inscription. On each side of the reredos is a lofty niche with a fine sculptured canopy over it, apparently coeval with the chancel. The north and south porch, each with two windows, and fire places, and the former with a parvise, are striking features in the church.

### Cadbury Camp

was next visited. Colonel Bennett, the proprietor, had arranged for inspection a collection of interesting objects found in the Camp, including horseshoes, bones, Roman coins, querns, and a stone in the form of a hatchet.

The Rev. H. W. WINWOOD described the bones as those of *bos longifrons*, deer and swine.

Mr. STEVENS stated that the quern was of an early and very interesting form.

Mr. JAMES PARKER thought the stone hatchet very doubtful. One very like it from Cambridge had been recently examined by himself, and Dr. Rolleston, and they had come to the conclusion that it had never been manufactured.

A gentleman present observed that two stone hatchets, very similar, had lately been found near Congresbury.

Mr. JONES remarked, that he believed there was no classical authority to prove that the Romans ever used horseshoes. There certainly was no Latin word for horseshoe, and he did not know that any illustration of their use occurred in any ancient sculpture. The only instance he had himself seen, was a faint trace on one hoof of one of the horses in a *biga*, basso relievo, in the Museum at Avignon, but this he was sure was accidental. Columella, the great Roman authority on rural affairs, in his treatise on the choosing and rearing of horses, makes no reference to horseshoes. It was, therefore, he thought by no means certain that the horseshoes were of the same date with the Roman coins.

Having enjoyed the magnificent view, embracing a district, it is said, with a radius of 30 miles, the company assembled on the camp under the presidency of Sir W Medlycott.

The LORD BISHOP pointed out how that the ancient occupants had, in this camp, according to their usual custom, taken advantage of the natural formation of the ground in constructing this strong-hold.

The Rev. Prebendary SCARTH, at the request of the president, described the camp and its fortifications. He remarked that the subject was one which was full of interest, but which it was very difficult to say anything certain about. He thought that all he could say, after examining this camp, and looking round the fortifications of the encampment, and comparing it with the other camps of a similar kind in this country, but more especially in South Wales, and all that line of country which was occupied by the Britons previous to the Roman conquest, when Caractacus so nobly defended his country—having himself examined those defences, he was inclined to think



that everything showed this to have been an ancient British earthwork; and he thought the remains found within it tended to confirm that opinion. The chief features of this were the very strong ramparts with which it was surrounded, and more especially the entrances. The entrances were particularly curious from the way in which they were fortified, showing that they were of particular importance. He knew of no camp which showed the entrances so well defined as this, except that wonderful work, Maiden Castle, near Dorchester, which was one of the noblest and most wonderful works that existed in this country. He thought the earthwork they were now examining was only second to that. It did not appear to have had any Roman camp within in, as was sometimes found. There was a Roman camp within the British fortification at Clifton, for example. Again, the construction of the ramparts here, so far as he had been able to examine them, was very different from what they found at Clifton, where there was an inner core composed of lime and stone, a mass which could not be cut through.

At the Society's meeting last year he had the opportunity of saying something on the camps at Clifton Down, and on each side of the Avon. Their ramparts were a solid mass of concrete, and that led us to suppose that the Romans must have had a hand in the formation of two of those camps at least. Here there was nothing of the kind; the ramparts were composed of lias stones and earth—the simplest kind of ramparts; the sort you would find at Maiden Castle. Then this did not lie at all in the line of a Roman road, so far as he could make out. It lay a considerable distance from the great fosse road, and also the road which ran along the top of the Mendip Hills; and although there might have been vicinal roads near it, it

did not appear to have been a main point of occupation in Roman times. That was another confirmation of the opinion that it was an ancient British fortress. He thought on examining the ancient British fortresses they would find that the earlier ones were really the stonger. The indications we had of the way the Britons fortified themselves in ancient times showed that they were by no means an unskilled people. He thought we very much depreciated their condition at the time they were conquered by the Romans. He thought the very fact that a chief like Caractacus could stand against the whole Roman force seven years, and could for that time defend himself, showed that our ancient British forefathers were a people not at all to be despised.

One point it was necessary to clear up. He did not know if there was a spring to be found within this camp—(a Voice : Yes, three springs)—there might be ; but the truth was these great fortresses were not long occupied. They were only occupied in times of national danger, when the cattle were driven in, and when perhaps the inhabitants of the whole district took refuge. It would have required a very large force to have besieged a camp of those times ; and he did not think they were long held as places of permanent occupation, but only for temporary refuge. That belief was suggested to him by an inspection of Maiden Castle ; and he saw points of resemblance in the New Zealand pahs. He wished he could have thrown more light upon the camp.

Mr. Wm. ARTHUR JONES said he wished to supplement the interesting observations which Mr. Scarth had made, by reminding them of what had been said by his late much respected colleague, Mr. Warre, who was one of the best authorities we had ever had in this county on earth-

works. In papers communicated by him to the Proceedings, he had described three types of encampments, and he had placed this camp of Cadbury among those which were mainly occupied during the time of war as strong-holds. They would notice here the absence of anything like a cattle enclosure. Most of the ancient British camps in Somersersethshire were composed of three enclosures,—first, the cattle enclosure ; then an enclosed and fortified space for dwellings ; and lastly the strong-hold, which corresponded to the keep of a Norman castle. Mr. Jones further observed, that when the ditches were of their original depth, and the mounds loftier and steeper, and bristling with sharp-pointed stakes, it would have been no easy matter to take this place by storm.

The Rev. W. BARNES, who was next called upon, made a few observations upon a discovery which had been made at Maiden Castle, inasmuch as he believed that discovery might give hints for other such discoveries in such strong-holds as this and others.

Some time ago the farmer who held the land was trying to make a sheep pond at the top of the hill, that is, in the outer camp, the one we might assume to be the cattle enclosure ; and within the space of a square sheep pond he found no less than seven round pits—very round, very clearly cut, and about the size of wells, and from four to seven feet deep. All of them were filled with a very black, loose, fatty earth, and that earth was found to be mainly of animal and vegetable substances. In the earth were found many interesting objects—pieces of pottery ; one of the stones of a quern ; many bones, especially the bones of the red deer ; those bones showing at the same time what their animal food was in those days.

Among the things found in one of those pits was a comb,

which, it was shown, could not have been Roman, but belonged to a very early time. It was made of a flat bone—a sheep's, he believed—ground down, and the teeth were cut in the end, not in the side of it. Well, he believed that if the turf were taken off there would be found scores, if not hundreds, of those pits, for they were very close together. He was of opinion that the pits were made at various times. He had seen one instance where a pit was begun to be excavated, and evidently abandoned, because it cut into the circle of another, which was an older pit, but still not so old that they could think fit to dig into it. He made these notes because he dared say they might readily find such pits here, and he hoped it would be tried. It was only to take an iron bar and try over the ground.

The BISHOP inquired what Mr. Barnes thought those pits were for?

Mr. BARNES : Refuse pits, and not dwellings.

The BISHOP : But that was one of the common forms of the earliest dwellings—pits where the circles touched one another, and I suppose were covered over with branches. Is that not the earliest acknowledged form of British dwellings?

The Rev. Canon MEADE mentioned Pen pits; and another gentleman referred to those of Worle.

Mr. BARNES said they were filled with what was no doubt animal and vegetable matter; and the farmer found it very productive when applied as manure. Proceeding to offer a few notes on the "Stone Age," he said it so happened that speech tallied with history in so many points, and that our history as well as the Celtic speech ran back to the stone age. Now, we had the word flint, and the word chisel; both these words belonged to the stone age, and expressed a solid Saxon

image. Thus, the Teutonic word for arrow was *flean* (to fly), and *et* was a diminutive added, making *fleanet*, or flint; therefore flint meant arrow. Chesil—such as the Chesil Beach near Weymouth—meant hard stone, pebble, or flint; therefore that word was used when a chisel, or *ceosel*, was of stone. The word hammer, meant a hard knob, a stone. These words, and many others he might mention, went back to the stone age, and were proofs of the Celtic age of our race.

Mr. E. T. STEVENS followed with some remarks on the pits on Maiden Castle. Within the last week he had been negotiating for the purchase of those specimens found there. He would mention that he had particularly stipulated that if there should be any local museum or collector, he would waive all claim. He had lately examined in the neighbourhood of Salisbury a great many of those pits; and he had found remains almost identical with those which occurred at Maiden Castle. He had found three combs, and, if indications of workmanship, and also slight indications of shape, had anything to do with it, they would belong to three periods.

Mr. Stevens gave a detailed description of the specimens, and also referred to discoveries at another place near Salisbury, and in the Hebrides, and at Grimes' Graves, Norfolk. He enlarged at some length upon the interesting evidences of ancient excavations for flints and chalk. The pits at Salisbury were clearly not of that form. He would give them a brief statement of the means by which those discoveries had been made. The ground was trenched for garden purposes, and they found all over the field that black patches occurred. The idea was that they had been burning weeds there. The owner cut into the black earth, and he was not satisfied with that explanation. He went

to work and found himself in a chamber of a bee-hive shape, not at all of the straight sides which were found at Maiden Castle and elsewhere. It was a chamber of earth, about six feet in height, and eight feet in diameter. He not only found that, but on working out one corner he worked into a second, a third, and a fourth chamber of similar shape, and all communicating with each other; and there was likewise a semi-recess, with what object he was not prepared to say. In the course of some recent excavations it was found that the aperture was about two feet six inches at the upper portion; it was enlarged downwards, and then swelled out into the chamber; and that was the invariable way in which the approach to these pits was made. Found in those pits were articles the same as they always rendered. There were a bone of *bos longifrons* worked into a hook, a bone ring, bone combs, a bone needle; very few flint tools; pottery, all hand-made, and the ornamentation of which was of a very peculiar and singular character. But while they found, until a recent date, no evidence of an iron implement, all the flint tools that they found had been flaked by means of iron implements; and there were rust-marks upon them in almost every case. Mr. Stevens went on to speak of trenches which had been found around some of the pits, containing specimens of Roman pottery.

Mr. SCARTH pointed out how very strongly the entrance to the camp was protected. There were eight mounds or ridges, each with a ditch between them; and the road in was curved, so that the attacking force might be taken in flank. Of course had that camp been well garrisoned it would have been almost impossible for any force to have

taken it. In order to get a full idea of the strength of the place, he advised them to keep along the ridge on which they were now standing for some distance.

Attention was called by Colonel BENNETT to a cottage near the church (South Cadbury) ; which Mr. Scarth suggested to have formerly been the "priest's house."

At Compton Pauncefoot the company halted to partake of a collation, which had been prepared in the National School-room.

**The Church of Compton Pauncefoot**  
was then visited, when the Rev. James Senior, the Incumbent, pointed out its principal features. Four modern painted glass windows, of Belgian work, were much admired.

By the courtesy of Captain Sandford the cavalcade passed through the beautiful grounds of Compton Castle on their way to

### **Blackford Church.**

Mr. SCARTH briefly pointed out the interesting points of the church. The doorway was a Norman arch of very early character, although not the earliest. It was almost a *fac simile* of a Norman arch at Langridge, not far from Bath, and was in fact a type of doorway which had been copied into a good many churches ; he had found them in various parts of England. The next point was the font, which was Norman, and of a very early character ; and then the staircase which formerly led to the rood loft. In one of the side windows was a little stained glass, one pane having a chalice, with I H S on it. It was an interesting church, and well worthy a visit. The corbels still exist, which formerly supported the beam that bore the

rood loft. There was an instance in Wales of a rood loft still remaining as it was in the olden time ; it was in Montgomery, and was the only one he knew of.

### Maperton.

The handsome church of SS. Peter and Paul was re-built about two years ago under the direction of Mr. Hall, architect, and is very highly decorated in its interior ; the windows being also all filled with stained or painted glass. There is some very fine Bath-stone carving in the reredos and other parts of the chancel. Fixed in its place in the chancel, and in strong contrast with the elegant decorations, is a quaint old piscina, which

The Rev. G. SAUNDERS informed the Society was found built into one of the old walls that was pulled down. It showed, he thought, that there must have been a Norman church standing on this site before the one which is now rebuilt, and which was in the Early Decorated style. Some very curious bits of old stone carving have been built into the walls of the porch to preserve them.

Mr. HALL, the architect, described the work which had been done, and gave it as his opinion that the tower, which remains untouched, was built in the latter part of the fifteenth century.

Mr. SCARTH acceded to a request that he would explain the origin of the largest fragment of old carving amongst those to which we have referred as being preserved in the porch. The fragment is rather more than a foot square, and it was examined with much interest.

He said that some years ago a very interesting Saxon cross was found near Scarborough, and he took a very great deal of pains with it, which resulted in his discovering the names of six or seven Saxon abbesses. In the



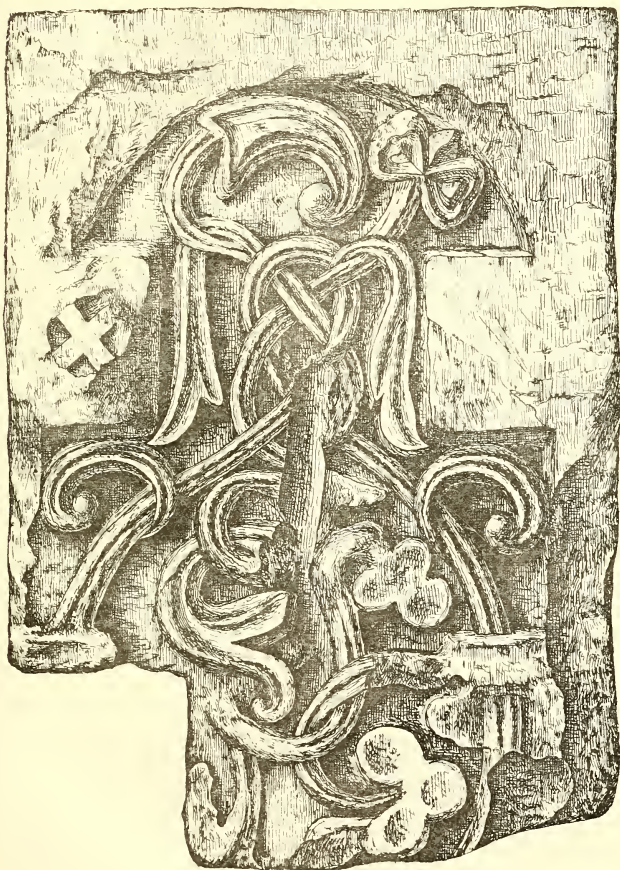
north of England there were some Saxon remains, and also in Devon and some parts of Somerset. When he saw this carving here, at first sight he took it to be a part of the stem of a Saxon cross. Those crosses were much more common than was now supposed ; in the north some of them actually remained in their original positions. They were put at the heads of graves, and were principally composed of three stones ; sculptured, often with three figures in a row, and below and above those figures were Runic knots, or representation of basket-work. This piece had all those characteristics when you first saw it, but when you looked closer into it, it would be found that the ornamentation was of a later period. It was Early English. There was the trefoil, which was not found in the Saxon carvings ; but when you looked closer into it, you found traces also of the shape of the cross. He apprehended, therefore, that instead of being part of the stem of a cross it was a portion of the cover of a coffin—about the thirteenth century work. It was interesting, showing that the church had an early foundation.

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## Second Day's Excursion.

On the second day's excursion the members from various directions assembled around the

Village Cross of Horsington,  
where they were courteously received by the rector of the parish, the Rev. HILL D. WICKHAM, who made the following remarks on the early history of the parish and cross.



SUPPOSED PORTION OF A SAXON CROSS,

*Embedded in the wall of the Porch at Muperton Church, Somerset.*







SCULPTURES ON THE CROSS AT HORSINGTON, SOMERSET.

The earliest possessor of Horsington, whose descent we can trace, is James de Newmarch, whose daughter Isabel conveyed, on her marriage, this manor to Ralph Russell, the heir of a powerful family then settled in Dorsetshire, and ancestors to the ducal family of Bedford. Of the two sons who sprung from this union, Robert, the elder, died without issue, and was succeeded by his brother William, who obtained from Edward I, A.D. 1284, a free warren of his lands at Dyrham, Gloucester, and at Horsington. This grant appears to have been coextensive with the Anglo-Saxon charter of "Soc, sac, toll, team, and infangthef," as it conveyed the right of holding a fair, market, a court, to which all free men (*liberi servatores*) should repair, a view of frankpledge of all his tenants, assize of bread and beer, &c., tumbril, pillory, thief fines for the shedding of blood, hue and cry within his manors, and infangthef, or a gallows for the capital punishment of a thief taken in the fact, within the limits of the manor. To this grant of free warren, I attribute the erection of the cross, believing it to have been built where the fair and market were held, though it does not offer the convenience of shelter, afforded by those beautiful specimens of market crosses, of later date, we have elsewhere in this county. The space around it is sufficiently large for a village fair or market, as the the enclosures of the pond and garden in which the cross stands are modern.

To the west is the Church House, with the date 1631, which, as a board in the church states, was exchanged by the parish with Thomas Gawen, in 1722, for some cottages, and adjoining this is the old Manor House of the Gawens, now modernised, but still retaining the strong oak door, with the little trap in the centre, by which letters were received during the troublesome times he yesterday alluded

to. On the east of the cross are some picturesque cottages, evidently of ancient date ; and to the north, the space beyond the pond, was, within the memory of man, more open. He hoped, for the credit of the village, that the gallows were never erected ; but the stocks were placed beneath the cross, and only lately removed.

The "free men" were long summoned to the court ; at that held 29th Elizabeth, Margaret Wickham, widow, does homage "*pro terris in Horsington,*" and in 1639 the "*liberi servatores*" were Henry Berkley, John Bampfield, Gilbert Huddy, Henry Tarent, James Wickham, James Hussey, Thos. Hannam, and Robert Gilbert.

The cross stands on a circular platform eight feet high, reached by four rows of steps, and is a monolith of Ham-hill stone, at present nine feet in height, placed on a square base three feet wide. On the south front of the shaft a sculptured figure, a good deal decayed by time, is carved under a canopy, the whole five feet high ; a drawing of which is given. The bracket appears to be a ram's head ; the figure that of a layman of the thirteenth century ; and above is a death's head, surmounted by a crown, on which rests a leg bone, supporting another scull. The device is very singular. It may have been erected more as an emblem of faith, than as a convenience to the market people ; and as a pulpit, from which the preaching friar might address them, and declaim against the cupidity and ignorance of the parish priest. A portion of the shaft was broken off several years ago, by the weight of a sundial, placed on it in 1708, by Thomas Wickham, the then rector. The whole was in a dilapidated state, and the present rector being told in vestry, shortly after his institution, that it belonged to him, now keeps it in repair.

The next place visited was the Church of St. Mary, at

### Abbot's Combe,

which has recently been restored, but the old waggon-roof had been happily retained. The square Norman font of Purbeck marble was examined with much interest. The Rev. Mr. FOX, the incumbent, stated that when the church was restored, the four corner pillars of the font were found to be of wood, and that columns of Purbeck stone had been substituted. The piscina in the side chapel, and the opening in the wall behind the pulpit, which probably led to the rood loft were specially noted as interesting features.

The company then proceeded to the Manor Farm, the property of Mr. Bailward, which stands upon the site, and consists of remains of an ancient establishment of the the Knights Templars, which gave rise to the name of

### Temple Combe.

A very large fire-place remains in one of the out-houses. Portions of the walls, some windows, and a doorway of the chapel are almost all that remains of this religious house. In the adjoining orchard a somewhat deep excavation, with a mound of earth in the centre, was described by Mr. Jones as evidently the site of the fish pond of the Knights Templars. It is known in the neighbourhood as the cock-pit, and believed to have been constructed for that purpose.

The Rev. HILL D. WICKHAM remarked that this was the only establishment held in Somersetshire by the Knights Templars, he only wished there was more of it left for them to see. He had hoped they might have had the privilege of learning its ancient history from a member of the Society, who was also a member of the order of the Knights of St. John. Major de Havilland had intended to be with them, but he had unhappily been called away to discharge those duties among the sick and



wounded in war, which devolved upon him by the vows of his order. There was very little known of this house further than it was a Commandery, and that on the suppression of the Knights Templars in England, it was conferred upon the Knights Hospitallers.

The chapel, of which so little now remains, had been used until comparatively recent times for the offices of the church. Mr. Keniston who died in the parish of Combe within the last ten years, had told him that he had heard his mother speak of a marriage which she had witnessed in that chapel.

From here the excursionists proceeded through the fields to the

### Old Manor House of Stowell.

This old mansion, now a farm house, though in very bad repair, retains many of its original features, and in many respects is full of interest to the students of ancient domestic architecture.

The Rev H. D. WICKHAM said he had this morning put together a few notes which he thought might be interesting to the company.

The manor of Stowell was possessed by the family of Hody, before the reign of Henry VI, as a son of Sir John Hody, Kt.—the latter being called of Stowell—was appointed Lord Chief Justice of England in the 8th year of that reign (1441).

In Campbell's "Lives of the Lord Chief Justices" he is classed among those who do not call for any particular remark. He was Knight of the Shire for this county in 1434, and in 1440, and married a daughter of John Jew, of Wiveliscombe, an heiress. Tradition says he was the builder of this old mansion. Here the family continued to reside for many generations, intermarrying with the families

of Thornbury, Burnell of Pointington—(by the lay subsidies for Somerset, preserved in the Rolls Court, we find, 37th Henry VIII, John Burnell of Pointington, armiger, assessed for his lands in that parish at 40s)—Yarde of Bradford, Lyte of Lyte's Cary, Burland of Steyning, &c., till the year 1709, when a Hody conveyed to Martha Wickham of Sherborne, the mansion and certain lands adjoining.

A few years later—1720—Hody sold the manor and the advowson of the church to Robert Knight, who was cashier of the famous, or infamous, South Sea Bubble ; and as an Act of Parliament was obtained, April 1720, to buy up certain Government annuities with South Sea Stock, it is probable that the manor of Stowell was purchased by Knight with the money thus fraudulently obtained. When the bubble burst, an Act was passed to sell the property of the guilty parties ; and this Act probably obliged Lord Luxborough, who, Mr. Wickham thought, was the son of Robert Knight, to part with the manor, which was bought by George Doddington in 1753.

Robert Knight himself was remanded, and without further evidence being obtained from him, he, after a partial examination, escaped from confinement and fled to France, as it was supposed at that day, with the connivance of certain influential personages—carrying with him the books which would have compromised them. He afterwards went to Brabant, where the authorities of the States General arrested and confined him in the castle at Antwerp, refusing to deliver him to the Parliament of England.

Among the caricatures of that day is one representing the Duchess of Kendall handing from behind a screen a bundle of papers to Knight, who is booted and spurred for

a journey ; and beneath are many verses, of which the following are a specimen :—

In vain Great Britain sues for Knight's discharge,  
 In vain we hope to see that wretch at large ;  
 Of traitors *here*, the villain *there* secure,  
 Our ills must all increase, our woes be sure.  
 Should he return the *screen* would useless be,  
 And all men then the mystery would see !

The Manor house purchased in 1709 by Martha Wickham, continued in this family till the year 1849, when it was sold by the late Rev. Trelawney Wickham, with 470 acres of land, to the late Mr. Bailward. He was restoring a family house near Bradford, and removed to it the oak pannelling in this mansion. Spoliations had been going on long before. One was made several years earlier, when the Perpendicular window, of which a drawing is given in this volume was removed to the curious old pigeon-house of the rectory of Horsington.

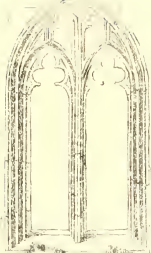
The steel plate of the engraving of this window has been presented to the Society by the Rev. Hill D. Wickham.

From Stowell the party proceeded to the earthwork of

### Milborne Titch,

close to the Milborne Port railway station.

Mr. SCARTH said there was no doubt of its being a military work. They would observe the lie of the ground, that all round there was a deep valley, which was cut off by this very large earthwork. And it was certainly one of the largest earthworks, after that they had seen yesterday at Cadbury. It was of a totally different character to that. Here they had a portion of ground naturally protected on three sides—protected on the most assailable side by a very high mound of earth thrown up, but without a ditch to it. They could see on looking at the outside the place from which the earth was taken. This mound cut off



ANTIEN T GOTHIC WINDOW

at the Rectory,

*HORSINGTON, SOMERSET*



a triangular portion—a sort of peninsula—and, therefore, it was only fortified by art on one side; and there seemed to be a causeway or road leading to it: the entrance to which he pointed out.

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The Rev. Prebendary referred to similar earthworks near Bristol, and in Yorkshire, and said it was very unusual to find an earthwork of this kind inland. They were often found on the sea-coast, and on the border of a river; but he did not know of another inland, and therefore this was very interesting. No doubt it was for purposes of fortification; but by what people it was done he could not say.

The Rev. W. BARNES observed that the name of *Wick* in this case was of Saxon origin, the root-form signifying a “bend” or “bending,” such as that formed by a stream, or by the coast-line in bays. He instanced *Schlesvig*, *Greenwich*, as illustrations. The *Vik-ings* were so called from their haunting bays for purposes of robbery: a *wick-ed*, man was one who turned away from the *straight* course. *Milborne Wick* took its name from the bend of the river, or burn, close by.

Mr. JONES suggested the Latin *Vicus*, as the probable origin of most, if not all, the towns and villages which bear the name of Wick.

Under the guidance of the respected President the company then wandered through the picturesque village to the source of the Parrett, a beautiful spot where a considerable stream gushes forth from a never-failing spring.

Again taking to the carriages, the company proceeded to Milborne Port, where the President, Sir W. C. MEDLYCOTT, read the following paper on Milborne Port and Church.

### Milborne Church.

The church is of great antiquity, with a large square tower, supported on Norman arches, added to at different periods, and containing six bells, to which two were added in 1842, when the south transept was rebuilt. A considerable portion of the building is of early Norman work, and the south doorway presents a fine specimen of the ancient toothed Norman moulding. The belfry staircase is also of very early date. On the original oak screen is the text, "Where the word of a king is, there is power, and who may say, What doest thou?"—Ecclesiastes 8, 4, which is supposed to have been added after the restoration of Charles II in 1660. The arms of Charles I are also suspended in the church. In 1855 the churchyard was enlarged and consecrated by Lord Auckland, Bishop of Bath and Wells, the grant of land being given by Sir William Medlycott, Bart., and a row of lime trees planted thereon. The foundation stone of the new nave and aisle was laid on the 6th of September, 1867, by the Rev. Hubert Medlycott, curate of Brington, Northamptonshire, and the church was re-opened on the 24th June, 1869, by Bishop Chapman, commissary for Lord Auckland, Bishop of Bath and Wells. Five newly-painted windows were added to the nave, painted by Clayton and Bell, representing the birth, life, and miracles of our Saviour. The window painted by O'Connor, was presented by the Rev. Prebendary W. H. Turner, of Trent, Somerset. The north transept was also rebuilt, and the monuments to the Medlycott family placed therein at the same time. The organ was also renewed, and placed in the chancel aisle, with the choir in the chancel, in lieu of the old gallery removed from the west end at the restoration. The register of the parish, dates from 1538, one of the earliest

being Austin Prankard, baptized 6th day of March, 1539.

The following names of vicars are recorded in the register :—

1781, John Butt. 1765, William Addisworth Purnell. 1770, Philip Williams. 1774, John Ballard. 1778, John Lucas. 1778, G. Huntingford. 1778, Charles Blackstone. 1785, Daniel Williams. Bishop of Hereford ; curate, William Owen. Mr. Bowles, of Wimborne ; curate, William Gane. 1836, Edward Walter West ; curates, Mr. Lyon, Mr. Penny, and Mr. Gillam.

At the death of the Rev. W. West the living was held by the Rev. C. Gillam, as vicar, for the Rev. Hubert Medlycott.

In 1641, Colonel the Hon. John Digby, second son of John first Earl of Bristol, was Member of Parliament for Milborne Port, and Forster gives us an account of a scene in the House of Commons, in which his name appears :—  
 “ In 1641, before the recess, Mr. Richard King, member for Melcombe Regis, Dorset, took upon himself to declare that, in a particular rebuke which Mr. Speaker had addressed to another honourable member, he had transgressed his duty in using so disgraceful a speech to so noble a gentleman, and, though the House interfered to protect their Speaker, and Mr. King was commanded to withdraw into the committee chamber, the matter ended in but a conditional apology, with which the house was *not* satisfied, but the Speaker *was*. The noble gentleman whom it vexed Mr. King to see treated with disrespect, was the younger brother of Lord Digby, Mr. John Digby, who, on the day when his brother would have been expelled the House of Commons, if the King's letters patent had not issued the night before, calling him to the House of Lords, came into the house, and, getting upon



the ladder that stands at the door of the house, by which the members thereof usually go up to those seats which are over the same door under the gallery, he sat still upon the same ladder, whereupon the Speaker, doubtless coupling the act as a sign of disrespect, with a display of insubordination by the same young gentleman on discussion of his brother's case the previous day, called out to him, and desired him to take his place, and not to sit upon the same ladder as if he were going to be hanged; at which many of the house laughed, and Mr. King, as aforesaid, was indignant." Colonel Digby, in 1643, commanded a force of 500 horse and dragoons at the battle of Stratton, in Cornwall. In 1644, he received a wound with a rapier in his eye. When the King's cause finally declined, General Digby, with the rest of his family, retired to France, to Pontoise, where he became a secular priest, and said mass daily to the English nuns, until his death after the Restoration. Besides the keenness of his courage, he had a more composed understanding, and was less liable to fumes than some of his family, who had sharper parts.

### Milborne Port.

This ancient borough, bordering on the Vale of Blackmore, is watered by a rivulet rising at Bradley Head, about two miles north-west of the town, which is one of the "Seven Sisters," and is the chief source of the river Yeo, and falls into the lake at Sherborne Park. The name is derived from *Mylen*—a mill, and *Bourne*—a spring, the word *Port* signifying a town. The Domesday Book, compiled by William the Conqueror, states that there were six mills within the precincts of the town. Milborne Port returned two members to Parliament as early as 1307—upwards of 560 years ago, but, as it was then the custom for electors to maintain their members during the

sittings of Parliament, and possibly finding the burden a heavy one, the electors petitioned to be excused from sending any. The borough was then virtually disfranchised till 1640, when Charles I restored the franchise, and two members were again returned. The privilege continued till 1831, when it was disfranchised by the Reform Bill on account of its small population. A list of members from 1641 include the following :

1641, Col. Hon. John Digby, second son of first Earl of Bristol.

1660, Michael Mallet, and Francis Wyndham.

1661, Sir Francis Wyndham, and Michael Mallet.

Michael Mallet, and John Hunt.

1678, John Hunt, and William Lacy, jun.

1679, John Hunt, and Henry Bull.

1685, John Hunt, and Henry Bull.

1688, John Hunt, and Thomas Saunders (on the Prince of Orange's landing, in the Convention Parliament).

1689, Sir Thomas Travel, kt., and Sir Charles Cartaret, kt.

1695, Sir Thomas Travel, kt., and Sir Charles Cartaret, kt.

1698, Sir Thomas Travel, kt., and Sir Charles Cartaret, kt.

1700, Sir Thomas Travel, and Sir Richard Weconman, kt.

1701, The Hon. Henry Thynne made way for Sir Thomas Travel, kt., and John Hunt.

1702, Sir Thomas Travel, kt., and John Henley.

1705, Sir Thomas Travel, kt., and Thomas Medlycott.

1708, Sir Thomas Travel, kt., (Thomas Medlycott, elected for Westminster, waved) and Thomas Smith.

1710, Sir Thomas Travel, kt., and James Medlycott.

1713, Sir Thomas Travel, kt., and James Medlycott.

1714, James Medlycott (John Cox, dead, and Michael Harvey, not duly elected), and Charles Stanhope.

1722, Michael Harvey, and George Speke.

1727, Thomas Medlycott, (an Off. Exc.) and Michael Harvey.

1734, Thomas Medlycott of Ven, and Michael Harvey.

1741, Thomas Medlycott, and Jeffery French.

1747, ditto ditto.

1754, ditto ditto.

1761, ditto ditto.

1763, Thomas Hutchings, (assumed the name of Medlycott in 1765).

1768, Thomas Hutchings Medlycott.

1774, Candidates—the Hon. Temple Luttrell, and Charles Worsley, elected—87; Edward Walter, and Isaac Hawkins Browne, 37.—Majority of votes, 50.

1780, Thomas Hutchings Medlycott.

1791, William Coles Medlycott, (bart. in 1808).

1801, Viscount Lewisham, (son of Lord Dartmouth), and Edward Paget, (Lord Stafford).

1802, Henry Lord Paget, and Hugh Leister.

1804, Hon. Charles Paget.

1806, Henry William Lord Paget, and Hugh Leister.

1807, ditto.

1811, Sir Edward Paget.

1816, Sir Edward Paget.

1818, Sir Edward Paget, and Robert Matthew Casberd.

\*1819, Lord Uxbridge, and Robert Matthew Casberd.

1820, Lord Graves, and Berkeley Paget.

\* Petition to Parliament against the nine capital bailiarites in 1820. Lord Darlington opposed Lord Anglesey's interest, and built the New, alias Blue Town, afterwards sold to Lord Anglesey.

1825,\* Sir Edward Paget, and Hon. Stourges Bourne.

1826, Mr. Casberd (Welsh judge), and Hon. Thomas North Graves.

1830, Mr. Stourges Bourne, and Mr. George Stephen Byng.

1831, Capt. George Byng, (three times chosen).

1831, Mr. Philip Crampton.

1831,† Mr. Lalor Shiel, and Mr. George Stephen Byng.

1832, Disfranchised by the Reform Bill, 2nd William IV, cap. 45.

There were nine capital bailiffs, two of whom, by rotation, presided annually, and at a Court Leet appointed two deputies. The returning officers of the borough were not required to reside in the borough, or pay taxes, as other voters. Their rights were petitioned against by Lord Darlington, in 1819, but Parliament confirmed their rights, and the petition was lost. They were chosen by a rota, or wheel. The constitution of the borough was by scot and lot, and the payment of respective rates and taxes, so that the landlords, who paid the rates and let their houses free of taxes, virtually disfranchised the electors."

As time would not admit of visiting Henstridge Church, the President exhibited a fine drawing of the monument, and read the following paper contributed by THOMAS BOND, Esq., of Tyneham, on

### The Monument in Henstridge Church.

The short notice by Collinson, in his History of Somerset, of the fine monument of the Carent family in Henstridge church is inaccurate. He says the tomb was erected to

\* Mr. Barrett and Mr. Sharpe were the candidates, but were never returned for the borough

† The Hon. Stewart Wortley, and Mr. Lockhart canvassed without success.

the memory of Sir William Carent, and Alice his wife, the last of the Toomers, but this is clearly a mistake. The heraldry alone points out that the individuals commemorated are William Carent, Esq., and Margaret his wife, the daughter of William Stourton, Esq., and sister of John first Baron Stourton, and the archives of the Bishop of Bath and Wells, prove that the tomb was erected by this William Carent, in his lifetime, to the memory of his deceased wife and of himself. He was son and heir of William Carent, by Alice his wife, sister, and ultimately heir of Richard Toomer, of Toomer, in this parish.

From the register of Bishop Beckynton, it appears that on 20th November 1463 (3 Edward IV) the Bishop granted forty days' indulgence to all true penitents, who should go to the tomb of that worthy man, William Carent, Esq., erected in the prebendal church of Henstridge, (*qui ad tumbam probi viri Willielmi Carent, armigeri, in ecclesia prebendali de Hengstrigge, erectam et fabricatam accesserint,*) and should devoutly repeat "Pater noster" and "Ave" for the welfare of the said William Carent, and of the venerable Mr. Nicholas Carent, and John Carent, senior, his brothers, and also of John Carent, junior, his son, during their lives, and for the soul of Margaret, late wife of the said William Carent, and the souls of the other persons aforesaid, after their deaths.

The monument consists of an altar tomb, of Ham-hill stone, surmounted by an arched canopy of the same material. Underneath the canopy rest the effigies of the Esquire and his lady, which, with the slab on which they lie, are of grey sandstone. The tomb and canopy are still in good preservation; but the heads of the effigies are much mutilated. The male figure is habited in a complete suit of the armour commonly in use at that period, with

the exception of the hands, which are joined and elevated in the attitude of prayer, and the head, which is also uncovered, rests on a cushion. The hair is cut short round the face. On the left side is a sword suspended from a belt which passes round the body; and on the right side are a misericorde, or dagger, and gauntlets. The feet have broad toes, and rest on what appears to be a lioness couchant regardant. There is a little shield on each shoulder, on which are depicted the arms of Toomer, viz. *gules, three bars wavy argent*. The female figure is a good specimen of art and execution. The features, however, are much mutilated, the hands are raised in the attitude of prayer, and the head rests on a cushion. The mantle is fastened across the breast with a cord, and the dress descends in straight folds, entirely covering the feet, which rest on an animal, apparently muzzled, but it is much mutilated. On each breast are painted the arms of Stourton—not in the form of a shield but on the mantle—viz. : *sable, a bend or, between six fountains*. An inscription, which was probably commemorative, ran round the verge of the slab, but is now utterly illegible. Another inscription occupied the moulding which runs up the side and across the head of the canopy—only a few words are now legible, but from these it appears to have consisted of the lines so frequently met with on monuments of this period :—

Sis testis Xste, quod non tumulus jacet iste  
Corpus ut ornetur sed spiritus ut memoretur.

Collinson thought the Toomers of Toomer, and the Domers of Pen Domer, near Yeovil, in this county, were one and the same family, but in this also he was certainly mistaken. The Domers or Dummers were quite a distinct family, and bore a different coat of arms. They

sprang from the village of Dummer, near Basingstoke, in Hampshire, where they were seated shortly after the conquest, and a branch of them continued there till the latter end of the 16th century. The elder branch removed into Somersetshire, having become possessed of Penne by marrying an heiress of that manor. She was living a widow in the reign of King John. The Domers continued in possession of Pendomer till the reign of Henry IV. The Toomers took their name from the manor of Toomer, in the parish of Henstridge, and Richard De Toomer purchased lands in Henxtrigge, in 31 Edward I.

The Carents first appear in this county and in Dorsetshire in the early part of Edward III's reign, when they held lands in Hinton S. George and Kingston, in Somerset, and in Marnhull and Todbere, in Dorset. At one period, during the reign of Henry IV, they resided at Carent's Court, in the parish of Swanage, in the Isle of Purbeck, but after becoming possessed of Toomer by their marriage with an heiress of that place they made it their principal residence. William Carent, who erected the monument above described, was some time high sheriff of Somerset and Dorset, and member of Parliament for the former county. He died on the 8th of April, 1476 (16 Edward IV). His brother, Mr. Nicholas Carent, was elected Dean of Wells 22nd August, 1446 (24 Henry VI), being then a Canon of that Cathedral, and he died 3rd May, 1467 (7 Edward IV). John Carent, senior, their brother, was seated at Silton, in Dorsetshire, in right of Alice his first wife, who held it in jointure from a former husband. His second wife was Isabel, daughter and heir of Robert Rempston, of Godlingston, in the Isle of Purbeck, Dorset, and he died 4th April, 1478 (18 Edward IV). The manor of Toomer continued in the Carent family till James Carent,

Esq., of Toomer, conveyed it, together with the manor of Venn, in 1675, to trustees, to the use of himself for his life, and after his decease in trust to raise money for payment of his debts. He died before 25th March, 1676, and the estate passed to Edward de Carterett, Kut, gentleman usher of the Black Rod, whose son, Sir Charles de Carterett, and Elizabeth his wife, afterwards wife of Alexander Waugh, Esq., sold it in 1696 to James Medlycott, Esq., of the Middle Temple, ancestor of Sir William Coles Medlycott, Bart., the present owner.

Mr. BATTEN observed that it was satisfactory to find that what he had come prepared to suggest to the meeting was confirmed by so high an authority as Mr. Bond. He produced a copy of the Indulgence referred to, taken from Hutton's Extracts, which document, by stating the Christian name of the wife of the entombed Wm. Carent to be Margaret, clearly identified him as the son, and not the husband, of Alice Toomer. He was satisfied that Collinson had, as Mr. Bond said, confounded the two families of Dommere or Dummer, and Toomer. The Dummers of Chilthorne Domer and Pendomer were no doubt one family; he had charters in his possession showing this. But he could not trace any connection between them and Toomer, or that they were ever known by that name. In every variety of spelling the initial D is preserved. The arms of Toomer are said by Collinson to be *three bars wavy*, whereas those of Dummer were—*Az billey, and in fesse a crescent or*, ascribed to "Joan Domare" in Charles' Roll. This coat is borne also on the shield of the recumbent effigy of one of the family—perhaps Sir John Dummer, temp Edward III—in Pendomer Church; and Mr. Batten exhibited a letter of attorney, dated 19th November, 9th Hen. IV, from Edmund Dummer, Esq., to William Staunton and



others, to deliver seizin of his manor of Pendomer to John Stourton and others, to hold to them and the heirs and assigns of John Stourton, to which is attached a seal, with a fine impression of the same arms, and an inscription—*Sigillum Edmundi Dummere*. Mr. Batten mentioned also, that the Carents were owners of a manor and estate in Yeovil Marsh and Kingston juxta Yeovil, which in the reign of Elizabeth, passed to the Comptons, and the greater part was conveyed by them, 2nd Jac. I, to John Harbyn, Esq., lineal ancestor of the present Mr. Harbin, of Newton.

Having visited the church, and examined the varied and valuable Museum of objects of interest collected in different parts of the world by Mr. Medlycott, the members and their friends, by the courteous invitation of the President, assembled in the beautiful grounds of Ven House, where they were sumptuously entertained by Sir William and Lady Medlycott.

The courtesy and hospitality of the President and his lady having been duly acknowledged, votes of thanks unanimously carried, were presented to the Rev. Hill D. Wickham, and Mr. Herbert Messiter, for their valuable services as Local Secretaries; to the Rev. Prebendary Scarth, Mr. T. E. Stevens, and other gentlemen who had read papers; to the General Secretaries, and to Sir William C. Medlycott, as President. The Annual Meeting was then declared to be closed, and all the members present could not fail to have considered the proceedings as in every respect among the most successful and agreeable in the annals of the Society.

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NOTE—In reference to a statement made during the ex-

cursion as recorded (p. 19), the editor begs to add that while these sheets were passing through the press, he was favoured with a note by Mr. W. A. Franks, from which it appears that there is authority for the use of metal shoes for mules and asses in Roman times, and that iron "slippers" which seem to have been used for the hoofs of animals have been frequently found with Roman remains. The specimen in the British Museum however, would seem to have been designed to protect the sides of the hoof as well as the base. In the article SOLEA, by Mr. James Yates, in Smith's Dict. of Greek and Roman Antiquities, it is stated, "iron shoes (*soleae ferreae*) were put on the feet of mules, (Catullus xvii. 26); but instead of this, Nero had his mule shod with silver, (Sueton, Nero, 30), and his Empress Poppœa her's with gold, (Phi. Hist. xxxiii. 11. 3. 49)."

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# Conversazione Meetings.

1870-1.

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*December 12th, 1870 :*

On the Castle and Manor of Taunton Deane, by W.  
A. JONES, Esq.

On some Rare Birds recently taken in the neighbourhood of Taunton, by CECIL SMITH, Esq.

On the Origin of the word "Junket," by W. P.  
PINCHARD, Esq.

*January 9th, 1871 :*

On Charles II in Somersetshire, by E. CHISHOLM-  
BATTEN, Esq.

On the Somersetshire Dialect, by the Rev. W. P.  
WILLIAMS.

*February 6th, 1871 :*

A Summer on the Quantocks, by the Rev. W.  
TUCKWELL, M.A.

On the Great-Bustards recently killed in Devonshire,  
by CECIL SMITH, Esq.

On the Manor of Taunton Deane : its Lords and its  
Customs, by W. A. JONES, Esq.

On the Dialects of Somersetshire, by R. C. A. PRIOR,  
Esq., M.D.

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# The Museum.

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ADDITIONS SINCE THE PUBLICATION OF THE LAST  
VOLUME :—

*Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archæological Society.*

*Journal of the British Archæological Association.*

*Journal of the Royal Historical and Archæological Association of Ireland.*

*The Archæological Journal.*

*Proceedings of the Bath Natural History and Antiquarian Field Club.*

*Associated Architectural Society's Reports and Papers.*

*Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of London.*

*Report of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, U.S.*  
1868.

*Bulletin of the Essex Insitute*, vol. 1 ; and *Proceedings of the Essex Institute*, vol. 6, part i ; *Salem, Mass., U.S.*

*Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archæology and Natural History.*

*Collections of the Surrey Archæological Society.*

*Journal of the Royal Dublin Society.*

*Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire.*

*Crania Britannica*, 6 parts, by Mrs. PLOWDEN C. WESTON.

*On the Rodentia of the Somerset Caves*, by Mr. W. A. SANFORD.

*Memoranda Illustrative of the Tombs and Sepulchral Decorations of the Egyptians*, by Mr. E. JEBOULT.

*First Report of the Royal Commissioners on Historical Manuscripts*, by Mr. E. CHISHOLM-BATTEN.

*Flint Chips, and Some Account of the Blackmore Museum, Salisbury*, by the Author, Mr. E. T. STEVENS.

*Glossary of the Dialect of Forth and Bargy*, by the Author, the Rev. W. BARNES.

*Black-letter folio Bible*, by the Rev. J. W. WARD.

*Visitation of Somerset, 1623 ; Copy of Old Deed of Bamfield ; Gloucester Monumental Inscriptions, &c.*, by Sir THOS. PHILLIPPS, Bart.

*M.S. Church Notes of Horsington*, by the Rev. H. D. WICKHAM.

*First Report of the American Museum of Natural History.*

Engraved copper plate of St. Mary Magdalene, Taunton, by Mr. SAMUEL SHEPPARD.

Ancient key found in the churchyard at Cricket St. Thomas, by Mr. WILLS.

Ammonite from the chalk at White Horse Hill near Wantage, by Mr. CHAS. HARTE.

Engraved copper plate of a window at Horsington, by Rev. H. D. WICKHAM.

Stones of an Australian fruit, and copper ores from Australia, by Miss CAVILL.

Coal fossils from Ashton-under-Lyne, by Mr. GEO. WEBBER.

Specimen of the Clifton "Landscape Rock," by Mr. COLMER.

Iron and magnetic ores from Dartmoor, by Mr. C. D. FOX.

Head of a cross found at East Harptree, by Mr. F. W. NEWTON.

Ornaments and articles of dress, weapons, and shields, and musical instrument, from the Dyak tribes of Borneo ; an armadillo and other animals, by His Exc. RAJAH BROOKE, Sarawak.

Fifteenth century abbey token found at Wiveliscombe, by Mr. E. SLOPER.

Opium pipe, comb, and tail of a fish from India ; arrows from the Feejee Islands, by Mr. O. W. MALET.

African quiver with arrows, by Mr. CROSS.

Old tobacco pipes found at Taunton.

*Purchased—*

*Palæontographical Society's Journal.*

*Ray Society's Publications.*



PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND  
NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY,  
FOR THE YEAR 1870, PART II.

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PAPERS, ETC.

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Historical Notes of the Church of  
Castle Cary.

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BY THE REV. CANON MEADE.

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THE following notes on the history of Castle Cary Church are designed to supplement the paper read in 1856 before the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society, and printed in the Society's report of 1857.

That paper described the manorial history, and that of the proprietors of the manors, but did not include any notice of the church. The few particulars I now can give for the first time are but scanty, and are chiefly taken from the Registry of the Bishops at Wells, from old churchwarden's accounts, and the parish register.



Previous to the Conquest the manor of Cary, with the advowson, belonged to the Abbot of Glastonbury, having been given to him by Kentwine, a king of the West Saxons. It was taken from the monastery by the Conqueror, who appears to have allotted it first to Walter de Douai, or Dowai—his name appears as proprietor of Castle Cary in the Domesday Book.\* In a short time subsequent to the Conquest all the rights of the manor, excepting the patronage of the church, are found in possession of the family of Perceval. Robert de Perceval, Lord of Breherval, Yvery, Montinny, and Vasse, in Normandy, came over with the Duke, on his successful expedition to England in A.D. 1066, and received a grant of the manor of Cary. Returning, however, to his own country he devoted himself to a religious life, and was succeeded in his English estates by his son Ascelin.† It will be remembered that this family afford a curious instance of the capricious origin of surnames, and that William Gouel de Perceval being called “Lupellus” or the young wolf, after Ascelin his father, who from his warlike qualities had been called “Lupus” the wolf, the word *Lupellus* anglicized became *Lupel* and *Lovel*, and was transmitted as the name of two noble families‡ in the ancient peerage of Great Britain.

It appears that the patronage and rectory of Cary was given, by the wife of Walter de Douai,§ to the Benedictine Priory at Bath, founded by King Edgar about 970; and remained in possession of the Monastery until the dissolu-

\* Vol. I, page 95a.

† Anderson's Genealogical History of the House of Yvery.

‡ Lovell of Castle Cary, and Lovell of Minster Lovell, Oxfordshire, and Titchmarsh, Norts.

§ Temp John de Villulâ, A.D. 1090. This medical bishop re-built the Monastery at Bath, and appointed a prior over them, they having had abbots before for 100 years. He also translated the See from Wells to Bath, and called himself “Bishop of Bath” only.

tion. In 1548 King Edward VI granted the rectory and advowson to the Bishop of Bath and Wells, in exchange for some lands which belonged to the See. The ecclesiastical estate remained in possession of the bishops until the year 1810, when the rectorial estate was sold in fee to Sir Richard Colt Hoare, Bart., who had previously held it under a lease for lives from the Bishop ; but the patronage of the vicarage continued in the Bishops of Bath and Wells. The church is dedicated to All Saints, and consists of a nave with two aisles, a chancel, and tower at the west end, with a vestry attached to the north wall of the chancel.\*

No vicar having been resident in the parish for more than one hundred years, before 1845, the church had fallen into decay, and was disfigured by most unseemly contrivances for room—supplying not more than forty free seats for a population of about two thousand. No tradition exists as to where the vicarage house formerly stood, although it is recorded in the Terrier at Wells that there was a vicarage house, with a cottage, barn, and orchard ; these had all passed away from remembrance. In 1845 about seven acres of rectorial glebe were obtained by exchange from Sir Hugh R. Hoare, Bart., then the Lord of the Manor, and proprietor of the rectorial glebe,† and upon that, annexed to a few lugs of garden ground, called the

\* There are no documents remaining which show at what period the church was built, but the architecture indicates that it was in the reign of Hen. VI. The nave has a clerestory, which was probably raised some time subsequently to the building of the church and the tower. The latter was in a ruinous state previous to the restoration of the church, and was the oldest portion of the structure. The principal features of the church are of the Early Perpendicular period. The pulpit, and portions of the rood screen, which now enclose the organ chamber, are beautifully carved, and have been well restored.

† See *supra*.

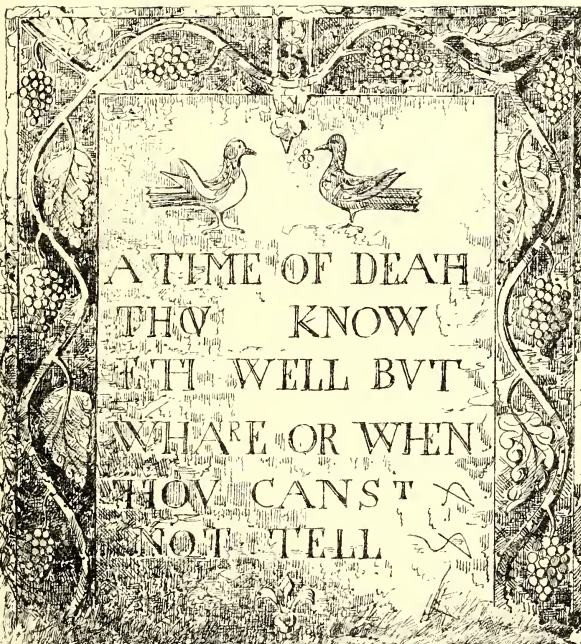
“Vicarage plot,” a new and convenient vicarage house was built under the “Gilbert Act,” chiefly with money borrowed by mortgaging the rent charge. In 1856 the church was also enlarged and restored.\* It is now 110 feet long, and 42 feet wide ; the spire is 139 feet high ; and the church contains when quite full 730 persons ; 363 of the sittings being free and unappropriated.

There is, in the churchyard of Castle Cary, an old tombstone which has somewhat unjustly cast a stigma upon the parishioners. The late Mr. Russ, when at Southampton, fell into conversation with a gentleman who told him that he, Mr. R., came from the most barbarous place in England, as being the only place, it was believed, existing where cock-fighting was thought to be a practice fitting to be recorded on a tombstone in a churchyard. Mr. Russ heard this statement with some surprise, and on returning to Castle Cary hastened to the churchyard, where, after some search, he found an old headstone, a good deal out of the perpendicular, but containing apparently a representation of two birds standing opposite, ready to peck at one another. Not satisfied, however, with appearances, Mr. Russ had the long coarse herbage cleared away from the opposite side of the tombstone, and there he was pleased to find an inscription, shewing that the stone was erected in memory of a respectable family of the name of Swallow, who are mentioned in Collinson’s History of Somerset, as having given some gates to the the church. The birds, therefore, mistaken for cocks, were intended probably for swallows, forming a rebus upon the family name.†

It will be remembered that in September, 1651, King

\* On plans of Mr. Ferrey, the Diocesan Architect.

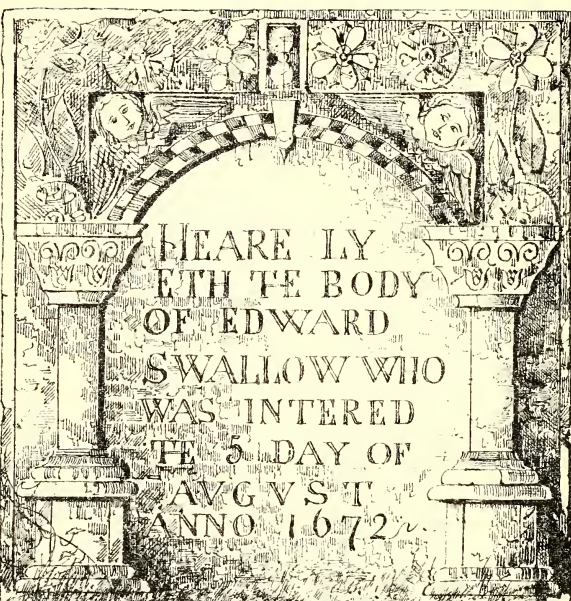
† See the lithograph taken from a rubbing of the stone and inscription.



A TIME OF DEATH  
THOU KNOW  
EST WELL BUT  
WHARE OR WHEN  
THOU CANST  
NOT TELL







HEARE LY  
ETH TE BODY  
OF EDWARD  
SWALLOW WHO  
WAS INTERED  
TE 5 DAY OF  
AVGVST  
ANNO 1672

*Wm. 1672.*

Charles II, on his escape after the battle of Worcester, slept at Castle Cary, in the house of Mr. Edward Kirton, or Kyrton. This Mr. Kyrton is said to have been resident agent of the Duke of Somerset at Castle Cary, or, as is supposed by Mr. Batten, in his able and interesting paper on Somersetshire Sequestrations, was lessee of the parks under the Marquis of Hertford;\* and lessee also under the Bishop of the rectory and rectorial glebe. That he (Mr. Kyrton) was a man of some eminence is clear from his being a Member of Parliament in 1623 for Ludgershall, and in 1628 for Great Bedwyn. In the Parliament of 1640 it appears also that he sat for Milborne Port.

In the account of Somersetshire Sequestrations, by Mr. Edward Curle, it is recorded that Mr. Edward Kyrton was one of those proceeded against as a "royalist delinquent," and made a composition for his estates, at a reduced fine, in consideration of his settling £50 a year out of the rectory for the augmentation of the maintenance of the minister of Castle Cary. I am sorry to say that no trace of this augmentation now exists.

In the old churchwardens' accounts for the years 1633

\* A MS. note of the late Right Hon. Henry Hobhouse, of Hadspen, formerly "Keeper of the State Papers," informs us that "The manors of Castle Cary and Almesforth (Ansford) were settled 24 Car. 1, 1649, on the marriage of Henry Lord Beauchamp, eldest son of Willm. Marquis of Hertford, with Mary, eldest daughter of Arthur Lord Capell, in trust to pay £1600 per annum to the said Mary for her jointure. On the death of John Duke of Somerset, in 1675, without issue, these manors descended to his niece, Lady Elizabeth Seymour (only surviving issue of the said Lord and Lady Beauchamp), who married, A.D. 1676, Thomas Lord Bruce, eldest son of Robert Earl of Ailesbury, and were conveyed in the same year to t'tees, in trust to sell or pay off the jointure of the said Lady Beauchamp, then Marchioness of Worcester; and also certain annuities charged by the will of Duke John. In 1684 they were sold to Ettrick, Player, and others. Player made partition in 1703." [Cart. orig. H. H.]



and 1634 we find an item among payments for church rates in these years :

Edward Kirton .. .. . vii<sup>s</sup> 6<sup>d</sup>

Another entry is as follows :

Ite' laide forth for taking downe the }  
vicarage barne .. .. . } ix<sup>s</sup> 6<sup>d</sup>

This account is signed by

JOHN COSENS and } Church-  
STEPHEN RUSSE } wardens.

The family of Russ have held an estate at Clanville, in this parish, for a long period of years.

John Tompson who, as will be seen in the list of vicars which I give below, seems to have been Vicar of Castle Cary for 33 years, signs the vestry book in 1628 and 1651. After the latter date his name does not appear for ten years ; but after the restoration he signs again, A.D. 1661.

The following entries occur in the parish accounts in 1662 :—

Ite' laid out for a gallon of muscadine }  
and 2d bread for Easter Day .. } viii<sup>s</sup> 2<sup>d</sup>  
For a quart of sack for Mr. Tompson .. i<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup>  
Ite' laide out for three quarts and a pint }  
and a half of muscadine, and 2d bread } vii<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup>  
the Sunday after Easter .. }

Query, was the second item intended as a special rejoicing on the return of Mr. Tompson to his parishioners?

# LIST OF THE VICARS OF CASTLE CARY,

FROM THE REGISTERS OF THE BISHOPS AT WELLS.

VICARS OF CASTLE CARY.

7

A.D.	NAME	BISHOPS	PRESENTORS	REMARKS
1312	John, Vicar of Castle Cary	Jno. Drokenstord, 1309 to 1329	The Prior and Convent of the Benedictines at Bath	John, Vicar of Castle Cary, was appointed <i>Penitentiary</i> of the Deanery of Cary. See Appendix I
1328 July 8	Walter Hayne -	The same	The Prior and Chapter of Bath	
1347 Aug 3	Robert Godard -	Ralph de Salopiâ, 1329 to 1363	The same	
1348 Dec 3	Stephen de Kynar	The same	The same	He is called "Priest"
1402 Jan 11	Richd. Cranbourne or Cranbury	Ralph Ergum, 1388 to 1403	The same	He is called "Chaplain"
1413 Aug 13	Richard Brook -	Nicholas Bubwith, 1407 to 1424	The same	Rector of Stafford, in the Diocese of Sarum, exchanged with Richard Cranbury
1427 July 20	Walter Harris -	John Stafford, 1424 to 1443	The same	

A.D.	NAME	BISHOPS	PRESENTORS	REMARKS
1443 April 14	Nicholas Westhill-	Thomas de Beck- yngton, 1413 to 1464	The Prior and Chapter of the Convent at Bath	
1492 Nov 10	William Lutte -	Richard Fox,* 1492 to 1494	The same	W. Lutte resigning, a pension of £4 was assigned to him
1498 Oct 13	John Morris -	Oliver King, 1495 to 1503	The same	
1518 Mar 19	Henry Kensycke -	Card. Adrian de Cas- tello, 1504 to 1518 (deprived 1518)	The same	See Appendix No. II
1546 Oct 10	Ambrose Marshall	William Knight (deprived 1553)	On the presenta- tion of Thomas Clerk, Esq.	Bishop Knight became a con- vert to the reformed religion
1554 Nov 20	Richard Chevers by deprivation of the preceding	Gilbert Bourne, 1554 to 1558 (deprived 1559)	On the presenta- tion of William Crowches, Esq.	

\* Two Bishops were intermediate between Bishops Beckynton and Fox, viz : Bishop Freecas or Free, and Bishop Stillington.

A.D.	NAME	BISHOPS	PRESENTORS	REMARKS
1564 Aug 31	John Furse	-	Collated by the Bishop of Bath and Wells	On the death of the last Incumbent
1592	John Taunton	-	On the presentation of Francis Kirton of London	John Taunton was appointed after the death of Bishop Godwin, but before the episcopate of Bishop Still in February, 1592, probably by a commission. There is no institution of this Vicar in the Registry at Wells; his name occurs in the parish book
1623	John Tompson	-	Edward Kyrton, Esq.	John Tompson is the Vicar mentioned in the parish accounts, ( <i>vide supra</i> ). The advowson was granted to Kyrton by Bishop Montagu
1663 Aug 2	John Creed	-	On presentation of "Kingsmilli Ar- migeri"	

A.D.	NAME	BISHOPS	PRESENTORS	REMARKS
1721 Nov 1	Samuel Woodforde A.B.	George Hooper and John Wynne from 1703 to 1743	On presentation of Rachel Ettricke	
1771	Thomas Wickham (died 1786)	Edward Wiles, D.D. 1743 to 1773		Thomas Wickham was also Rector of Shepton Mallet
1787	John Turner -	Charles Moss, D.D. 1774 to 1802	The Bishop	Collinson says that when he wrote his history Mr. John Taylor was Vicar. He must have mistaken this name for Turner: no such name as Taylor is found among the Vicars
1795	Charles Moss, Sub- Dean of Wells	The same	The same	
1801	William Hunt -	The same	The same	
1845	Richd. Jno. Mcade 25th Jan, 1845; ; Prebendary of Wells 7th May, 1844; Canon of Wells 29th May, 1863	George Henry Law, D.D. 1824 to Sep. 1845	The Bishop, acting by the Bishop of Salisbury his Commissary	In the 20th Edw. I (1292), the Church of Kari or Carie was taxed in xx marcs. In 1426 the Vicarage is valued at £10 or xv marcs. The same value is given of it 1431, 1445, &c.

APPENDIX No. I.

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John, Vicar of Castle Cary in 1312, was Penitentiary of the Deanery of Cary. As everyone may not know what this word means, I give the interpretation of it from Webster's Dictionary "One who prescribes the rules and measures of penance."

The following account of a penance at Rome, Barcelona, &c. is given by Dr. T. Forster, F.L.S., a gentleman of the Roman Catholic religion, and author of a very useful and entertaining work, called the "Perennial Calendar." The ceremony, he says takes place on Holy Friday, at the time of Vespers. It is preceded by a short exhortation, during which a bell rings, and whips, or strings of knotted whipcord, are distributed quietly among such of the congregation as are on their knees in the middle of the nave. . . . On a second bell the candles are extinguished, and the former sermon having ceased, a loud voice issues from the altar, exhorting to think of unconfessed, unrepented, or unforgiven crimes. This continues a sufficient time to allow the kneelers to strip off their upper garments, the tone of the preacher is raised more loudly, and he vehemently exhorts his hearers to recollect that Christ and the martyrs suffered much more. . . . The flagellation then begins. The darkness, the tumultuous sound of blows in every direction, "Blessed Mary pray for us," bursting out at intervals, the whole scene fixes you to the spot in a trance of horror beyond expectation or bearing. The scourging continues ten or fifteen minutes, and when it sounds as if dying away, a bell rings which seems to invigorate the penitents, for the lashes beat about more thickly than before. Another bell rings, and the blows subside. At a

third signal the candles are re-lighted, and the Minister (the Penitentiary) who has distributed the disciplines, collects them again with the same discretion. The penitents appear too much ashamed of their transgressions to make a show of their penance, so that it is difficult to say whether even your next neighbour has given himself the lash or not.

Perennial Calendar for March, p. 111.

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## APPENDIX No. II.

Mr. Robert Lemon, of the State Paper Office, in a letter dated November 21st, 1828, and addressed to the Right Honorable Henry Hobhouse, (then keeper of the State Paper Office), states that he found at the Chapter House, Westminster, where many of the State Papers were then preserved, a very curious paper, viz :—"A Petition from certain inhabitants of Wincanton to Lord Cromwell (who in 1536 had been appointed Vice-Gerent of the Kingdom in Ecclesiastical matters,) complaining of the conduct of the Curate of Wincanton, who led a very dissolute life, and would not allow them to read the Word of God in English ; they were, therefore, obliged to seek spiritual comfort from the Parson of *Castle Cary* (Mr. Kensycke\*), which so exasperated the Curate of Wincanton, that he threatened to fight any of his parishioners who did so ; and he was so continually practising his "schol of fence" that they were all frightened to meet him."

R. L.

\* See the List of Vicars, A.D. 1526.

# Somersetshire Sequestrations.

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BY JOHN BATTEN ESQ.

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## *Part II.*

THE following paper (read at the Wincanton Meeting) is a continuation of one published in the Society's volume for the year 1853, detailing from the original MS. the proceedings of Edward Curl, one of the Parliamentary Sequestrators for the Hundred of Catsash in this county, in executing the ordinance against Royalist delinquents and their property in that Hundred.

Of the Somersetshire Royalists none paid more dearly for his strenuous adherence to King Charles than *Sir John Stawell* of Cothelstone—the head of one of the most ancient families in the county—originally seated at Stawell near North Petherton. He was Knight of the Bath and Knight also of the Shire in the Long Parliament, from which he was dismissed in 1642, for putting in force the Commission of Array in this county. Lord Clarendon characterizes him as “a gentleman of the largest estate that any man possessed in the west, who, from his very great affection for the person of the King and for the Government that was settled both in Church and State, engaged with



singular courage both his own person and two sons in the most active part of the war, and had rendered himself as odious to the Parliament as any man of that condition had done." So odious indeed was he, that although by the Articles on the surrender of the city of Exeter, in the defence of which he had been engaged, he was fully entitled to compound for his delinquency, he was not permitted to do so unless he took the Negative Oath and Covenant which was a condition expressly repugnant to the terms of the Articles; and refusing, when brought before the House, to kneel at the bar in admission of its authority, he was ordered to be indicted for High Treason, kept close prisoner for nearly four years, and on several occasions brought to trial, but fortunately for him without any decisive result. In the meantime sad havoc was made with his property. His fine mansion at Cothelstone was despoiled and demolished, woods to the value, as he says, of £3000 to £4000 felled, and many of his estates sold. He survived however to witness the restoration, and was one of the 100 Knights who at Charing Cross welcomed Charles II on his first entry into London. His eldest son was created Lord Stawell of Somerton, but the title is now extinct.

By his wife, daughter and heiress of Sir David Hext of Low Ham, near Somerton, Sir John Stawell acquired that manor, and there he died; but he was buried in the church of Cothelstone, where his monument records of him—  
"Grassante perduellione magnas equitum peditumque copias suis sumptibus in auxilium regis paravit. Post perditam rem familiarem ædium ruinam carceres aliasque calamitates exoptatissimo Regis Caroli secundi redditu lætans diem obiit 21 die Feb 1661 ann æt 61."

Of the horse and foot so raised by him, some probably

were those mentioned in the following entries in Mr. Curl's Diary—

“Thos. Cole of Kingstowne gave a mare worth £15 to Sir John Stawell when he was governor of Taunton, and required Matthew Stile to come to Taunton and bring what weapon he could and go against Lime. And further said to Richard Bennett about three months since, that some would come ere long that would make his shoulders hang downwards, meaning that they would hang him.” And again “John Bickham of Kingstowne came with four souldiers to Matthew Stiles' house, pulled his sonne out of bedd to goe against Lime, being then sick, and because he could not goe, plundered his father's house, and besides sett out a horse worth £10 under Sir John Stawell.”

We may gather too how Mr. Curl obtained his information, as further on he says, “Paid Matthew Stiles of or near Taunton, his expence and paines in discovering malignant estates, 4s.”

Sir John Stawell's property seized in this Hundred was only the Manor of Babcary. He was also entitled to one moiety of the neighbouring Manor of Blackford, and from Curl's Diary it appears that his estates [in Cothelstone, Bagboro', Bishops Lydeard, Michaelchurch, Durston, Somerton, High Ham, Low Ham, Evercreech, Pressly, Pury, and Littleton, were all under Sequestration.

In collecting the rents of Babcary, Curl says he was obliged to have extraordinary assistance “because of the malignancy of the place.” Perhaps this may be attributable to the influence of the *Overton Family* resident at Babcary, or in the neighbourhood, three members of which—*Mr. Andrews Overton*, a Captain in the King's Army, and Lord of the Hundred of Catsash; *Mr. William Overton*, who was “against the Parliament,” and who had “a fair

dwelling-house and 50 acres of land in Queen Camel," and "another fair house and about 160 acres of land in Keinton;" and *Mr. Christopher Overton*, who refused to acknowledge the Title of the Parliament—were all treated as malignants. The Overtons came into this county from Staffordshire, and there is a pedigree of the family in the Somersetshire Visitation of 1623. A descendant of Mr. Andrews Overton was Vicar of Queen Camel.

*Mr. Thomas Gollop's* estate at Keinton was sequestered because he was in arms against the State, being a Major in the King's Army. Mr. Curl says, "I received nothing from it, Mr. Gollop producing unto me Articles of the surrender of Portland under Captain Batten's hand, by which he was to enjoy the profits of his estate." This gentleman therefore, must have been "Colonel Thomas Sidney Gollop, Governor for the King of the Castle and Isle of Portland," which he surrendered on the 4th April 1646, to "Captain William Batten, Vice-Admiral and Commissioner in Chief of all the forces by sea for King and Parliament," and the Article referred to is the 5th, which stipulated that the best endeavours should be used with both Houses of Parliament for the speedy taking off the Sequestrations if any on the estates of the officers and soldiers then in the Island and Castle of Portland.\*

Papists—and especially Papists in arms were expressly denounced by the Ordinance and seldom escaped Sequestration. How they and their widows and children were hunted out and treated we learn from several entries in the Diary.

One is, "This night at Wellington, received information that Mrs. Checke, the relict of Mr. George Checke, deceased, is a Papist." In another Curl accounts for rent

\* Hutch. Dors. 3rd ed. vol. II. p. 814.

received for a tenement belonging to the children of John Morris, a Papist deceased. And in a third he complains that the receiver of a Crown Rent chargeable on lands of one Margaret Norris, a Papist, which was under Sequestration, refused to distrain upon Mrs. Norris's goods for it, saying "he would not," and further said "what ! shall the poor woman starve ? the State is best able to pay and so levied it on the tenant."

*Mr. William Gawen*, of Horsington, was charged with being "a Papist in arms against the Parliament." He was one of the Gawens or Goweynes of Norrington, Wilts, where they had been seated from the reign of Richard II, and had only recently removed to Horsington. His mother was Gertrude, daughter of Richard Bluet, of Holcombe Rogus, Devon. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, his grandfather was subjected to a fine of £1380 for absenting himself for 60 months from his Parish Church of Alvediston. One of the editors of the *History of Modern Wilts*, speaking of this family, alludes to the high and dignified offices held by them in that county, and eulogizes them for the "unmerited sufferings they endured for their attachment to the religion they professed, and for their loyalty to the House of Stuart previous to, and at the time of, the Commonwealth."

There is a pedigree of this family also in the *Visitation of 1623*. Their arms were—Erm, on a saltire engr. az, 5 fleurs de lys, or.—*Wood* in his *Athenæ* mentions a Thomas Gawen, fellow of New College in 1632, a learned man who became Rector of Exton, Hants, and was deprived of his living, and as he could not accept the preferment offered him on the restoration by reason of his being a Roman Catholic, we may safely conclude he was of this family.

The property of Mr. Gawen in this Hundred consisted of lands at Hatherley in the parish of Mapperton, but his Manor of Horsington was also under Sequestration. The tenant of Hatherley was allowed amongst his disbursements, "5s paid to the pulling down of Sherborne Castle." This was after the surrender to Fairfax in 1645, and from the entry it appears that the expence was defrayed by a levy or rate not confined to property in the county in which the Castle stood. It took upwards of two months to complete the demolition so far as it extended.

Three other Papists were subjected to Sequestration in the Hundred—*Mrs. Green* of Sparkford; and her son *Gabriel Green*; and *Edward Keynes* of Compton Pauncefoot. Mr. Keynes was the owner of "the Manor House, and one half the demesnes worth in the best of times per ann £100, viz.

The House, Garden, and Orchards containing about five acres of ground worth per ann. . . . .	}	£   s   d		
The two Burrow Hills . . . . .		12	0	0
Broad Meadowe and Kingston Meadowe		7	10	0
Moore Meadowe . . . . .		7	0	0
Pines Close . . . . .		4	0	0
In Long Meadowe . . . . .		5	0	0
North Waddon . . . . .		9	0	0
The Warren . . . . .		12	0	0
The Hier East Orchard . . . . .		7	0	0
The Lower East Orchard, and the Milles		24	0	0
The Hop Garden Meadows . . . . .		6	0	0
The Coppice 20 acres, felling every year } two acres at ten years growth }		—————		
		93	10	0

And the Coppice, and House, and Orchard I conceive

cannot be less worth than £6 10s, which makes up the sum of £100 per annum."

Then comes this entry—"But part of the grounds is conceived to be Mr. Godolphin's, who married Sir Henry Berkeley's daughter, who lived in the house and did carry from the house to Yarlington to Sir Henry Berkeley's house 16 feather beds not yet seized."

The Keynes family were originally from Compton Martin in this county, and afterwards Lords of Stoke Wake, and Candel Wake, Dorset. Their arms were—az, a bend wavy cotized ar.

The estate of *Mr. Robert Hunt* of Speckington, the owner of the Manor of Compton Pauncefoot and part of the demesnes, was seized "for that being a member of the Parliament he deserted his trust and went to Oxford to the Ante-Parliament," and "The Survey of his Estate" is

Impr. th'old rents of ye Mannor of	£	s	d
Compton Pauncefoot being per ann.)	17	17	11

It'm demeasnes in Compton Pauncefoot	}	100	0	0
and Blackford worth in the best of				
times per ann. . . . .				

Due from Wm. Plucknett of Compton	}	250	0	0
Pauncefoot, for an arrear of fine				

"The land being claymed by Mr. John Hunt, who promised to make it appeare before ye Co'mitte, and in the meane time the Sequestration taken off by order frō Goldsmith's Hall as I was told."

The successful claimant was, no doubt, John Hunt, the father of Robert, who probably had an estate for life in the property, and who enjoyed it to the extraordinary age of 94.

The Hunts were from Forston in Dorsetshire, where this gentleman was born. I have not been able to ascertain

what place he represented ; and I may mention that a correct list of the members of the Somersetshire boroughs is a desideratum, Collinson, in his History, only giving us the Knights of the Shire, and those not accurately. For instance, he states that in 1614 Sir Robert Phelips and Sir Francis Hastings were elected ; whereas Sir Maurice Berkeley and John Poulet were returned.

Phelps traces the descent of Compton as an entire property from Sir Walter Pauncefote, in the time of Hen. VII, to Edward Keynes, in this reign, and states that it was sold to John Hunt about the year 1630.\* This account we see is inaccurate, the demesnes being held in moieties, Mr. Keynes being the owner of one moiety with the Manor House, and Mr. Hunt of the other, with the manorial rents and rights. This is very intelligible when we observe that Sir Walter Pauncefote left two daughters his co-heiresses, between whom the inheritance was divided. Mr. Hunt, however, bought Mr. Keynes' moiety pending the Sequestration, for in enumerating the goods in the house Mr. Curl says—"Mem. There is in the maulting house a great lead cistern that will wet sixty bushels of barley, which I seized. I desire to know whether I shall dispose of it, and to have warrant for it, because Mr. Hunt hath now bought the house." Mr. Hunt was evidently not to be unwarrantably interfered with, for Curl adds—"One close 18a. estimated worth £9 a year, not let or sown this year, Mr. Hunt gave such threatening words that those that desire to have it durst not meddle with it." The fact of Mr. Hunt's purchase is confirmed by the following entry in the Catalogue of Compositions, "Edward Keynes Recusant per Henry Hunt purchaser £37." Henry Hunt was of Oxford, a brother of

Robert, and the purchase was advisedly taken in his name to avoid risk of forfeiture.

An inaccuracy occurs in Collinson with reference to the Manors of North and South Cadbury. He says that Sir Francis Hastings having no children these estates were sold by some family arrangement to Richard Newman Esq. High Steward of Westminster, who, we may mention, was a zealous Royalist, rewarded after the restoration with an honourable augmentation of his coat of arms. We are enabled to correct this account by interposing before Mr. Newman another Lord of these Manors, as eminent as he was in his attachment to the royal cause in its adversity (or it may be its obstinacy), although not surviving as he did to share the honours attending its restoration. This was *Arthur Ducke*, Doctor of Civil Law, simply designated by Mr. Curl, "as a known delinquent," his offence being, as we find from the Royalist Composition Papers in the Record Office, "that he left his habitation and went to Oxford, and was there at its surrender," which he justifies in his petition for leave to compound, on the ground that he was bound to attend on his Majesty's person as Master of Requests. Dr. Ducke was a wealthy man, and his property here was extensive. The ancient demesnes (*i.e.* the lands in hand) in North and South Cadbury were let "15 years ago" at £220 a year, and the reserved rents on tenements still outstanding on lives amounted to £72 1s 1d. He was also, as he says in the Particulars of his Estate, tenant by the curtesy of one moiety of the Manor of Wyke Champflower, the other moiety belonging to William Bull of Shapwick, who married his wife's sister. Dr. Ducke did not reside in Somersetshire, but at Chiswick near London—the Manor House at North Cadbury being in the occupation of his



tenant, Mrs. Willoughby, who must have been distracted by the frequent raids of Parliamentary troopers, detachments being constantly billeted on her, as her bill of charges for quartering them amounting to £49 16s 6d proves.

It may be mentioned in passing, that there is an entry in Mr. Curl's account which enables us to fix the date of the old wall inclosing the Cadbury Castle, as he says, "Imprimis abated Elizabeth Laver for three acres of ground which Dr. Ducke took into the Castle *when he walled it in*, 6d a quarter, the sum is 2s."

Arthur Ducke was a native of Heavitree, near Exeter, and a younger brother of Nicholas Ducke, Recorder of that city. He was first of Exeter College, Oxford, but afterwards Fellow of All Souls, and graduated as LL.D. in 1612. His connection with this county originated in his friendship with Dr. Lake, Bishop of Bath and Wells, by whom he was made Chancellor of this Diocese; and his duties at Wells introduced him to his future wife Margaret, one of the two daughters and co-heiresses of Henry Southworth, Esq. of that place, to whom he was married by the Bishop—the only marriage, it is said, the Bishop ever solemnized. Dr. Ducke was afterwards Chancellor of the Diocese of London, and sat as Member for Minehead in the Parliament of 1640. In the troubles which followed, he took the side of the King, to whom he was a firm friend—advancing him as a free gift at least £6000. So high an opinion had the King both of his loyalty and his learning, that he was selected as one of the two civilians to represent his Majesty in settling the futile treaty of Newport in 1648. He effected his composition in 1646, and the touching appeal with which he winds up his Petition to the Committee will bear repetition. "And lastly, I offer to the consideration of this Honourable Committee,

that I have spent above 40 years in the study of Civil Laws, hoping thereby I might become in some measure serviceable to the Commonwealth, and before these troubles the profit thereof was the better part of my yearly income and livelyhood, all which I have now not only lost, but all further hope of any considerable advantage thereby is now extinguished in England, which, in any other part of the Christian world, would produce to me a comfort, and livelyhood, and respect, after so many years study.”\*

Dr. Ducke did not long survive the downfall of his Royal Master, and died at Chiswick, in May 1649, leaving by his will £10 to the poor of North Cadbury. He was the author of a Treatise on the Civil Law, and of a Life of Archbishop Chicheley, the founder of his college.† He bore for his arms—or, on a fesse wavy sab, three lozenges of the field.

The next delinquent on the list, is *Mr. Thomas Cary* of Castle Cary, whose offence is detailed very minutely, viz :

“That he was in actual arms against the forces raised by the Parliament at Brewton and at Ivelchester.

“That he rayled at the Parliament calling them traytors and rebels.

“That when the country did rise and take one Fish, Provost Martiall at Wells, for the violence he did by night unto one William Paine of Weston Bampfylde, he was a means to rescue him from them, by being bound for his appearance to Sir Henry Berkeley.

“That when the country did rise upon the souldiers of Sir Francis Dodington, for wounding of Stephen Ashford of North Cadbury, and Mr. Williams of Barrow, and had

\* Royalist Comp. Papers.

† See Wood's Ath. Oxon. Princes' Worthies of Devon.

taken some of them and their horses at Castle Cary, he was a means to rescue them by promising to pay for the healing of their wounds, which he never did.

"That he was always active for the King's part and against the Parliament."

His estate was inconsiderable, as he compounded for £38 10s. But Mr. Curl retained as "*spolia opima*," one carbine, one sword, and one pike, "to be disposed of as the Committee shall please." I cannot trace any connection between this gentleman and the ancient family of Cary, the original seat of which according to Westcote, the Devonshire Topographer, was at Castle Cary, but at any rate he seems to have been animated by the same spirit as Sir John Cary of that place, Chief Baron of the Exchequer in the reign of Richard II, who forfeited his estate and was banished from the kingdom for refusing to transfer his allegiance to Henry IV.

We will pass over *Mr. James Kyrton* of Ansford, a Captain in the King's army—who was leniently dealt with by the Committee, "he having proved that he did much service in saving the goods of well affected persons to the Parliament, and because he seemed to the Committee to be a distracted man"—and come to his name-sake, and probably brother, *Mr. Edward Kyrton* of Castle Cary. The charge against him was—"That he being a Member of Parliament, did desert it, and was a Commissioner for the King." He was lessee\* of the park at Castle Cary under the Marquis of Hertford, (noticed in my previous paper) and of the Rectory and Parsonage of the same place under the Bishop of Bath and Wells, both worth as Mr. Curl says, £180 a year, but which he was glad to let to William Oram at £82. It appears from the Compo-

\* Royalist Comp. Papers.

sition Papers that Kyrton attempted to justify his desertion by reason of his attendance on the Prince and having taken the Negative Oath and National Covenant. He made his Composition in 1646, at a reduced fine in consideration of settling £20 a year out of the Rectory for the augmentation of the maintenance of the minister of Castle Cary, and subsequently the remainder of the fine was remitted on his agreeing to increase the augmentation to £50 a year. But Mr. Kyrton's troubles were not ended. In 1649, one Benjamin Avery of Frome, had recovered judgment against Kyrton in an action of false imprisonment who complained of being sued after making his Composition, which by the Articles of Exeter indemnified him from all past transactions, and prayed the Committee to stay further proceedings in the action. Avery made a long statement in justification, alleging that he engaged his life and fortune for the Parliament, and being in arms before Sherborne Castle was there shot by the enemy, and lay in danger of his life; nevertheless he was seized by command of Kyrton, one of the King's Commissioners, and cast into prison, and not released until he had paid him a considerable sum of money, otherwise he would have perished in prison,—such was the cruelty and violence of Kyrton and his party; and since it had pleased God to give the Parliament the victory over these merciless enemies, and Parliament not being able to make good their engagements for the repair of his sufferings and losses, he had brought the action against Kyrton and others and recovered some compensation. The Committee declined to interfere, and moreover saddled Kyrton with all the expences of hearing the case.\*

Edward Kyrton is believed to have been the Marquis of

\* Royalist Comp. Papers.

Hertford's steward. He was a Wiltshire man, and no doubt intimately connected with the Seymour Family, as he sat in the Parliament of 1623 for Ludgershall, and in that of 1628 for Great Bedwyn ; but before this he sat for Newcastle-under-Lime. In the Parliament of 1640, he was Member for Milborne Port. Down to the time of open rupture between the King and the Parliament he strenuously opposed the aggressions of the Crown often speaking with great spirit and effect, and supporting Sir John Eliot, Sir Robert Phelips, and other advocates of the popular cause ; and he reaped the fruits of it as early as 1626, being with Sir Robert Phelips displaced from the Commission of the Peace for this county. The warrant from Lord Keeper Coventry to the Clerk of the Peace for doing so is dated 8th July, 1626, Sir Walter Earl and Sir John Strangeways being at the same time struck out of the Commission for Dorset.

It was Kyrton who, when the House in 1628 resolved itself in the absence of the Speaker, into a Committee of Safety, exclaimed, evidently referring to the Duke of Buckingham—"The King is as good a Prince as ever reigned ; it is the enemies of the Commonwealth that have so prevailed with him, therefore let us aim now to discover them and I doubt not God will send us hearts, hands, and swords to cut his and our enemies throats"—Strong language this, for which he was at the instance of the Privy Council called to answer for the next morning at the Bar, but adjudged to have said nothing beyond the bounds of duty and allegiance, the House declaring "they all concurred with him therein."

On the actual breaking out of the war we find him one of the King's Commissioners of Array for this county, and Charles II in his escape from the battle of Worcester to

Trent in 1651, had sufficient confidence in his fidelity to make his house at Castle Cary a resting place for the night. Lord Clarendon says that the King and Lord Wilmot rode into Castle Cary together, and that Mr. Kyrton who happened to meet them knew Lord Wilmot but not the King. This is not quite correct, as Lord Wilmot, according to the King's own account, had gone on to Trent to prepare for his reception ; but that Kyrton did not recognise the King may be readily believed if we recollect the complete disguise which concealed him. Mr. Kyrton died in 1653, and was buried at Easton, Wilts, the entry in the Register being "Edward Kerton, officer to Ld. Marquis of Hertford, was buried Jan. 30.\*"

At Kingweston, besides Dr. Godwin the Rector, noticed in my first paper, we have *Mr. Smith* of Long Ashton, the Lord of the Manor, a known delinquent in arms against the Parliament, *Mr. John Hutton*, "who sate in the Co. Co. at Ilchester and did give his approbation to proclaiming divers gentlemen that adhered to the Parliament outlaws," and *Mr. Butt*, Dr. Godwin's son-in-law, who had served as a Captain in the King's army, and since he came home from Exeter, "did threaten the well affected of the estate." Mr. Smith was Thomas Smith of Long Ashton, one of the Members for the County with Sir Ralph Hopton, in the Parliament of 1639, and a great Royalist. But as he died in 1642, and his son Hugh was only 16 years old, I am unable to account for the continuance of the Sequestration.

The estate of *Mr. Edward Beaton* of Weston Bampfild, consisting of demesnes worth £127 a year, and goods appraised at £306 18s. 8d. was seized upon a grave charge against him, deposed to by two witnesses—"That

\* Coll. Top. and Gen. vol. 1, p. 39.

he presented his neighbours to the King's Commissioners for paying money to Colonel Strode.—That he said whoever paid money to Colonel Strode was a rebel.—That he said he had a horse in the King's service against the Parliament.—That his son was in arms against the Parliamentary forces under Sir John Horner and Colonel Strode.—That he said he would give £20 freely to the King's party and would not be fined as a malignant." He was fined however, though moderately, there being some point in his favor, of which the Committee gave him the benefit, and he and Edward his son compounded for the sum of £142.

The composition might not perhaps have been so easily effected had the attention of the Committee been called to a note of Mr. Curl's, "Item taken in the barn shed—three muskets, one sword, and one pistole all denyed" till, as Mr. Curl slyly adds, "they were found."

At this stage of the narrative Mr. Curl mentions an unexpected windfall. One Richard Clothier of Holton, hanged himself, and his goods being forfeited were seized as a Crown Right and sold for the use of the State for £24 6s 8d, the only deduction being £1 1s 8d for the Coroner and the Burial—a charge so moderate that I record it for imitation.

The lands of *Mr. Thomas Bennet* of Pythouse, Wilts, at Hatherley, in the parish of Mapperton, were seized because he had been a known delinquent in arms against the Parliament and a chief actor in the Dorset Club business.

The Clubmen in the Western Counties of Dorset, Somerset, and Wilts, were volunteer bands of country people, who, finding their petitions and remonstrances disregarded, and the power of the law paralyzed, assumed a kind of armed neutrality and enrolled themselves, as they professed, solely for the protection of their property from the plunder and rapine of the soldiers of both the contend-

ing parties. But although they avowed themselves neutrals it is probable they acted under royal influence; at any rate the Parliament thought their number and aspect so formidable, that after pretended negotiations for redressing their grievances, Cromwell himself attacked and routed them at Hamildon Hill, in the parish of Shroton, Dorset, and soon after the taking of Sherborne, which quickly followed, their forces were entirely suppressed.

These complaints of our Somersetshire yeomen were not only narrated in prosy petitions—they were “said or sung” in vernacular ballads. One of them, “The Somersetshire Man’s Complaint,” which is preserved in the British Museum\* is worthy of the attention of the editors of the intended Somersetshire Glossary.

They carried their poetic taste also to the field, for on one of the colours taken was this motto—

“If you offer to plunder our cattle  
Be assured we will give you battle.”

The estate of *Nicholas Pitman*, of North Cadbury, was sequestered in September 1645, “for that he was in arms against the State, being a Quartermaster in the King’s army and was in arms at Weymouth and Wimborne.” He had lands of inheritance in North Cadbury worth £20 a year, and goods and debts due to him £127 18s 6d.

Of this property Curl says “there hath been nothing made for the use of the State and it is now ordered not to be meddled with for the service Lieut.-Col. Pitman did in delivering up Corfe Castle.” The Colonel was no doubt a brother of Nicholas Pitman. The Corfe Castle story is a very dark one. The place had been long ineffectually besieged by the Parliament but so stoutly defended by

\* Lansd. MSS. No. 674.



the gallant Lady Bankes that success was almost hopeless. At this juncture Col. Pitman who was an officer in the garrison, being, it is said, weary of the King's service, offered to deliver the place up to the Parliament provided he had his protection. Having obtained a promise of it, he first proposed to Col. Anketil the Governor of the castle, to introduce a reinforcement of 100 men out of Somersetshire, pointing out to him that he could get leave of Col. Bingham, the Commander of the besieging force, to pass through the lines under the pretence of procuring the exchange of his brother, then a prisoner in the Parliament quarters, for one of the King's officers who was prisoner in the castle. Col. Anketil quite fell into the plan, and Pitman went direct to Col. Bingham but instead of treating for the exchange, he arranged to convey 100 picked men into the castle by night, the besiegers undertaking to make an assault as soon as the men had entered. Accordingly upwards of 100 men were selected out of neighbouring garrisons and led by Pitman to an entrance to the Castle where Col. Anketil was posted to receive his promised reinforcement. When 50 had passed in, Anketil getting perhaps uneasy at their appearance, and seeing more behind, ordered the gate to be shut, saying he had no room for more, upon which Pitman expostulated with the Colonel for using him so ill, bringing men so far at the hazard of their lives and then leaving them exposed to the cold and the enemy. In the meantime those who had entered took up advantageous positions in the King's and Queen's towers and the besiegers advancing at the same time, the garrison soon saw that they were betrayed, and after some resistance a parley was demanded and a capitulation agreed on for the surrender of the castle.

*Sir Humphrey Mildmay, Lord of the Manor of Queen*

Camel, did not reside at Hazelgrove, his seat in that parish, but at Danbury, in Essex. Hazelgrove was occupied by *Mr Henry Rose*. Both the landlord and his tenant were under Sequestration. The former was a known delinquent. His two sons were officers in the King's service, and the eldest fell in an action in 1644. Mr. Rose too, "set forth horse and arms against the Parliament. He stood up and called divers to go against the Parliament forces at Bruton, and gave money to John Stokes of Marston Magna, for his journey to Bruton." His goods were valued at £400, and his case shews the resistance the Sequestrators often encountered. The goods were all secured, including a fowling piece and musket which were left with Mrs Rose, upon her entreaty, in order to guard the house, her husband not being at home, but (as might have been expected) she soon conveyed them away. Upon Mr. Curl's proceeding to dispose of the goods he met with such resistance that he says "I had troops to assist me, and at night the cattle were all driven away. The next day I overtook 110 sheep one mile beyond Sherborne, and brought them back to Little Marston (which was also in Mr. Rose's possession) where I kept men to guard them." The old rents of Sir Humphrey Mildmay's Manor of Queen Camel were £75 12s 8d, 2 lbs. of pepper, 1 lb. of cinnamon, and one clove,—besides which there was the fair, to which a tolsey court was incident. Some leasehold tenements fell into hand during the Sequestration: amongst them was one third part of Camel Hill, "which contains 127 acres of pasture and arable land, and one quarre of stone"; and in one case the best beast of the tenant seized for a heriot, was an ox appraised at £5, and in another a cow valued at £3 19s. Collinson tells us that an ox,

in the same manor, 14 Hen. III, was reckoned worth 8s., and a heifer 3s. 4d.

Sir Humphrey effected his composition for £1275. He claimed to be charged only on the value of his life interest in the estate alleging that he had settled it after his decease on his youngest son. But the committee requiring the settlement to be produced, found that Sir Humphrey had reserved a power of revocation at his pleasure and consequently valued his interest as in fee simple.

The last delinquent to be noticed is *Sir Robert Banister*, *Kt.* one of the Commissioners of Array, and Lord of the Manor of Sparkford. He was of Bosenham, in Northants, but neither of our county histories informs us of his connection with Sparkford. He must have been a large landowner as his composition amounted to £5195.

A loan negotiated for the King gives us an insight into the difficulty he must have experienced in raising money for his service. Mr Curl tells us that when in London, in May 1649, he received information that Mr. Alderman Hooke, of Bristol, had agreed to lend his Majesty £2000 on the bonds of twenty-two knights and esquires, (as Mr. William Walronde, one of them told him) but only ten of them signed the bond, viz—Sir J. Stawell, Sir E. Berkeley, Sir Edward Rodney, Sir Thomas Bridges, Mr. W. Walronde, Mr. Edward Kirton, Mr. Speke, Mr. Warre, and Mr. Wyndham. Returning home by way of Bristol, Curl received orders from Captain Latimer Sampson to secure the money in those gentlemen's hands, that is, to require them to pay it to the Parliament and not to Hooke. Accordingly he summoned several of them; but the Alderman a true Bristolian, had not been asleep, for on Curl going to Mr. George Speke's house at Dillington, on the 11th of June to serve him and

Mr. Thomas Warre, he found they had been outlawed for the money by Hooke; nevertheless, he says, "I left summonses for both, with old Mrs. Speke and Mrs. Warre, their mothers as I conceive." Curl subsequently states that he was ordered to stay all proceedings in this case, and a letter from Cromwell to Mr. Speaker Lenthall, dated 20th June, 1650, explains this. After stating that at the siege of Bristol in the year 1645, for something considerable done in order to its reduction by Humphrey Hooke, Alderman of that place—which for many reasons is desired to be concealed—General Fairfax and himself had given Hooke an engagement that he should be secured and protected by the authority of the Parliament in the enjoyment of his life, liberty, and estate, he proceeds—"I understand that lately an order is issued out to sequester him whereby he is called to composition, I thought it meet therefore, to give the Honorable Parliament this account that he may be preserved from anything of that nature, for the performance of which, in order to the good of the Commonwealth we stand engaged in our faith and honour." This Sir Humphrey Hooke was of Kingsweston, and married in 1633 Florence, eldest daughter of Thomas Smith Esq. of Long Ashton.

I really feel an apology due to the Society for detaining it so long with a narrative of such a local and trifling character, which has no historical pretensions and little, if any, Archæological interest. At the same time, as it is a fair example of what was going on, not only in every part of this county, but in every other county, these minute details and incidents, relating to places and persons whose names are familiar to us, convey vivid impressions of the scenes of anarchy and confiscation which were the deplorable results of an intestine and unnatural war. But al-

though we may deprecate these results, we are bound to remember that the sturdy and successful opponents of the encroaching prerogative of the Crown, were the pioneers who cleared the way and laid the foundation for that form of government, which we prize as *The English Constitution*, which has resisted successfully trials more severe, and attacks more insidious than those of violence, and which, I trust, it will never be our lot as Archæologists to investigate as a relic of the past.

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# The Malets of St. Audries.

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BY GEORGE W. MARSHALL, LL.M.

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THE following pedigree is from the original Visitation of Somerset taken A.D. 1623, by Henry St. George, Esq., Richmond Herald, and Sampson Lenard Bluemantle, marshals and deputies to William Camden Clarencieux. I have made some additions, printed in italics, from the parish Registers of St. Audries, and put in sufficient of the pedigree given by Collinson to show the owners of the St. Audries estate till it passed away altogether from the family in the time of William Malet. Comparing this account with Collinson's, (vol. i p. 91) it will be seen that it gives much additional information though there are still several persons mentioned in the register extracts to whom I am unable to assign their proper place. The Visitation states that Arthur Malet was deceased *s. p.* in 1623, but the registers show that two persons of that name were buried at a subsequent date, and Collinson gives them no place in his pedigree. Much remains to be done before a complete pedigree of the Malets can be compiled. I merely offer the following as a specimen of what might be easily done by the Somerset Archæological Society in illustration of nearly every old family in the county if it undertook the publication of the Heraldic Visitations of Somersetshire.

# PEDIGREE OF MALET OF St. AUDRIES.

FROM THE ORIGINAL VISITATION OF CO. SOMERSET, 1623.

(*Harl. MS.* 1141, *fo.* 61.)

Thomas Mallett de Enmer=*Johanna filia Sir John Walham (Waddam)*  
*of Merefeld, Co. Somerset. Harl. MS.*  
*1385, fo. 12.*

Willms Mallett fil' et her.' = Isabella filia Tho.  
*See Harl. MSS. 1385, fo. 12, Michell de Gornestreet*  
*1445, 185a, Collinson's Somerset, vol. i, p. 91.*  
*in Cannington.*  
..... filia (*Tacle*) Fakell = Sir Baldwin Mallett 2 fil de St. = *Anne filia et haeres*  
*of Honiton, Co. Devon, ux. 1. Audries in Com. Somerset. Soli- Tho. Hatch de*  
*See Foss's Judges of England, vol. vii, pp. 143-4.*  
*Wollegh.*

Michael Mallet de St. Audries = ..... filia ..... Stowell. *Alice dau. of Anthony Marke = Johannes Mallett de Wolley. Thomas. Adam.*  
*of Poundridge, Co. Devon.*

Richard Mallet = *Joane dau. of Richard*  
de St. Audries. *Warre of Hestercombe.*  
*Buried 12 April Buried 29 Jany. 1609.* 1614.  
..... *Robert = Elizabeth*  
*dau. of Francis,*  
*George Rolle. ob. s. p.*  
..... *Malachi Mallett. = Elizabeth dau. of ... Trevanion.*

*John*  
*ob. s. p.*  
..... *Eleanor m. 1 Sr Arthur Acland,*  
*and 2 Sr Francis Vincent.*

A B C D

Michael 2 filius = Katherine filia Arthur Mallet filius = Mary filia ... 3. Gaven Mal = Cecily filia Hen. Sir Thomas Mallet, Kt. = Jane et her fratris Hen. Alley de et her, ob. s. p. Coffinde Com. lett. Bap. Alley predict. died 1665. Purchased dau. of de St. Audries. Gassage St. An. Bapt. 18 Jan. 1564. Devon. Mar. 31 Jan. 1571. See Herald and St. Audries from Arthur Mills. Bap. 22 Jan. drew in Com. Sold St. Audries to ried 8 Oct. Genealogist, vol. See Collinson, vol. iii, p. 496; vol. vi, p. 377.

Richard Mallett fil' Joan ur. Elizabeth ur Alley Mallett, etat = ..... soror Jo. Blewett et her' etat 5 annor Tho. Fulford. 20 annor. Bap. 9 de Holcomb in Devon. 1623. Died s. p. Jan. 1604. ob. s. p.

Sir John Malet of St. Audries, Knt. Recorder = Florence dau. of John Baldwin Mallet, ob. 3 June Michael Mallet of Bridgwater, &c. See Foss's Judges, vol. vii, Wyndham of Orchard 1646, et 20. Buried at Pointington.

Anne = Baldwin Malet = Anne dau. of George Harbin Merchant. William Malet, died at Smyrna unmarried. John Malet = Margaret, dau. of Anne buried Bap. 2 Aug. 1659 of the Middle Temple. ? Buried 17 // July 1696. Issue all died young. Elizabeth Bap. 10 March 1656. Married Philip Rose. 1657. Both living 1714. Anne Bap. 19 April 1664. Buried 12 Novr. 1666. Katherine Bap. 19 April 1658. March 1657. Senobia, wife of Daniel Hough of London.

William Malet Bap. 28 April 1680. ob. s. p. The last possessor of St. Audries, at's West Quantorhead. George Malet Bap. 23 June 1682. Buried 24 Novr. 1681. Lowing. Thomas Malet Bap. 21 Sept. 1685. Buried 7 August 1693. July 1696 vide sup. John Malet Bap. 20 Jan. 1696. ? Buried 17 1697. Anne Bap. 7 Jan. 1698. Francis Malet Bap. 9 Novr. 1698. Alexander Malet = Anne dau. of Lawrence St. Lo, D.D. Bap. 2 Novr. 1704. Rector of Combe Flory. 1700.



EXTRACTS FROM WEST QUANTOXHEAD PARISH  
REGISTER.

1563. Jno. Wood Gent. and Dorothy Malet were Married 22 August.

Arthur Malet the Son and Heir of Richard Malet Esq. was Baptiz'd the 18 day of January A.D. 1564.

1570. Michael Son of Richard Malet Esq. was Baptiz'd y<sup>e</sup> 22 day of Janu'y.

1571. Gawen Son of Richard Malet Esq. was Baptiz'd y<sup>e</sup> last of Janu'y.

1583. Arthur Malet Arm<sup>r</sup> and Mary Coffin were Married the 8 day of October.

1604. Alie Malett Gent' was Baptiz'd the Ninth day of January.

1604. Justine Malett Gent' was Baptiz'd The 20 day of Jnau'y.

1606. ffrancis Malett Gent' was Baptiz'd the 30 day of March.

1607. Justine Malett Gent' was Buried the 24 day of May.

1609. Joane Malet Gent' was Buried The 29 day of Janu<sup>ry</sup>.

1614. Richard Malett Esq. was Buried the 12 day of April.

1630. William Malet Gent' and Jane Meggs were married y<sup>e</sup> 5 day of Jan<sup>ry</sup>.

1630. Ann Malet Gent' was Buried the 28 day of March.

1634. Arthur Malet ju<sup>r</sup> was buried y<sup>e</sup> 22 of Octobr.

1644. William Malet Geñt. was buried y<sup>e</sup> 22 of March.

1644. Arthur Malett Esq. was Buried 16 Octobr.

1655. Anne Daughter of John Malet Esq. died the 30 day of March, Buried y<sup>e</sup> 31 of y<sup>e</sup> same.

1656. Elizabeth Daughter of John Malet Esq. and fflorentia his Wife was Borne y<sup>e</sup> 1 of March, bapt. y<sup>e</sup> 10 of y<sup>e</sup>——(same.)

1657. Anne Daughter of John Malet Esq. and fflorentia his Wife was Borne y<sup>e</sup> 19 of March, baptiz'd y<sup>e</sup> same day.

1658. Katherine Daughter of John Malet Esq. and fflorentia his Wife was Baptiz'd y<sup>e</sup> 19th day of April.

1658. Joan Malet al's Hooper Gent' was Buried the 2 day of October.

1659. John Son of John Malet Esq. and fflorentia his wife was born y<sup>e</sup> first day of August and Baptiz'd the second day of August.

1664. Jane daughter of John Malet Esq. and fflorentia his Wife was Baptiz'd y<sup>e</sup> 26th day of May. Born y<sup>e</sup> 24th of May.

1666. Jane Malet daughter of John Malet Esq. was Buried y<sup>e</sup> 12 day of November.

1680. William Son of Baldwin Malet Esq. and Anne his Wife was Baptiz'd 28 day of April.

1681. Anne Daughter of Baldwin Malet Esq. and Anne his Wife was Baptiz'd y<sup>e</sup> 25 day of April.

1682. George Son of Baldwin Malet Esq. and Ann his Wife was Baptiz'd y<sup>e</sup> 23 day of June.

1682. George Malet y<sup>e</sup> son of Baldwin Malet Esq. was Buried y<sup>e</sup> 24 day of November.

1683. Baldwin Son of Baldwin Malet Esq. and Anne his Wife was Baptiz'd y<sup>e</sup> 30 day of July.

1683. Ann daughter of Baldwin Malet Esq. was Buried y<sup>e</sup> 26 day of May.

1685. Thomas y<sup>e</sup> Son of Baldwin Malet Esq. and Anne his Wife was Bapt. y<sup>e</sup> 21 day of Septembr.

1693. Thomas y<sup>e</sup> Son of Baldwin Malet Esq. was Buried y<sup>e</sup> 7 day of August.

1696. John y<sup>e</sup> Son of Baldwin Malet Esq. and Anne his Wife was bapt. y<sup>e</sup> 20 day of Jan<sup>ry</sup>.

1696. John Malet Gent. was buried y<sup>e</sup> 17 day of July.

1697. Anne y<sup>e</sup> daughter of Baldwin Malet Esq. and Anne his Wife was bapt. y<sup>e</sup> 7 day of Jan<sup>ry</sup>.

1698. Francis y<sup>e</sup> Son of Baldwin Malet Esq. and Ann his Wife was Baptiz'd y<sup>e</sup> 9 day of Novembr.

1700. Jane y<sup>e</sup> Daughter of Baldwin Malet Esq. and Anne his Wife was Baptiz'd y<sup>e</sup> 27 day of March.

1704. Alexand<sup>r</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Son of Baldwin Malet Esq. and Anne his Wife was Bapt. y<sup>e</sup> 2 day of Novembr.

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# A List of the Birds of Somerset.

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BY MR. CECIL SMITH.

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AS no list of our Somersetshire Birds has been published in the proceedings of our Society since that of Mr. Baker, in the first volume, dated 1849-50, it seems now to be quite time for a new list, as naturally in those twenty years some additions to the avi fauna of the county have to be made. I have now been able to add eleven new species not included in Mr. Baker's list. On the other hand I have omitted several which he had included. As I did not think it right to increase the list by adding any of the rarer and more accidental visitants without being able to give a distinct authority for their having been found in the county, I have in all such cases given the place and date, and a reference to the authority on which I have relied. The list therefore, as it now stands, includes 227 species; of these 63 are our ordinary common residents, 27 common regular summer, and 25 common and regular winter, visitants; the rest may be considered only acci-

dental or rare occasional visitants, or such as are now becoming nearly extinct.

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## RAPTORES.

### VULTURIDÆ.

Egyptian Vulture. *Neophron percnopterus*. One near Kilve, October 1825. Yarrell

### FALCONIDÆ.

White-tailed Eagle. *Haliaeetus albicilla*. Very rare. One on the Quantocks, 1825. One on the Mendips. Montagu

Osprey. *Pandion haliaetus*. Occasional

Peregrine Falcon. *Falco peregrinus*. Scarce and becoming more so. Resident

Hobby. *F. subbuteo*. Rather rare. Summer

Merlin. *F. æsalon*. Rather rare. Generally winter

Kestrel. *F. tinnunculus*. Common. Resident

Sparrow Hawk. *Accipiter nisus*. Common. Resident

Kite. *Milvus vulgaris*. Rare and becoming extinct. Resident

Buzzard. *Buteo vulgaris*. Becoming scarce. Resident

Rough-legged Buzzard. *B. lagopus*. Rare. Generally Spring and Autumn

Marsh Harrier. *Circus æruginosus*. Becoming very scarce. Resident

Hen Harrier. *C. cyaneus*. Becoming very scarce. Resident

Montagu's Harrier. *C. cineraceus*. Rather more common. Resident

### STRIGIDÆ.

Long-eared Owl. *Otus vulgaris*. Rather rare. Local. Resident

- Short-eared Owl. *O. brachyotos*. Common. Autumn and Winter
- White or Barn Owl. *Strix flammea*. Common. Resident
- Brown Owl. *Syrnium stridulum*. Common. Resident
- Hawk Owl. *Surnia funerea*. One near Yatton, August, 1847, "Montagu's Dictionary," by Newman
- Tengmalm's Owl. *Noctua tengmalmi*. Near Bristol (?) Mr. Edward's collection at Wrington
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## INSESSORES.

## DENTIROSTRES.

## LANIADÆ.

- Great Grey Shrike. *Lanius excubitor*. Rare. Generally Autumn or Spring
- Red-backed Shrike. *L. collurio*. Common. Summer

## MUSCICAPIDÆ.

- Spotted Flycatcher. *Muscicapa grisola*. Common. Summer
- Pied Flycatcher. *M. atricapilla*. Very rare. Summer.  
"Birds of Somerset"

## MERULIDÆ.

- Water Ouzel. *Cinclus aquaticus*. Common. Local. Resident
- Missel Thrush. *Turdus viscivorus*. Common. Resident
- White's Thrush. *T. whitei*. One at Hestercombe, January, 1870, "Zoologist," S.S. p. 2018. One at Langford, near the Mendips, January, 1871, "Zoologist," S.S. p. 2607. Both by Mr. Cecil Smith
- Fieldfare. *T. pilaris*. Common. Winter
- Song Thrush. *T. musicus*. Common. Resident
- Redwing. *T. iliacus*. Common. Winter

- Blackbird. *T. merula*. Common. Resident  
 Ring Ouzel. *T. torquatus*. Rather scarce. Local. Summer  
 Golden Oriole. *Oriolus galbula*. Rare. Summer

## SYLVIADÆ.

- Alpine Accentor. *Accentor alpinus*. One at Wells, 1833,  
 Yarrell  
 Hedge Sparrow. *A. modularis*. Common. Resident  
 Redbreast. *Erythaca rubecula*. Common. Resident  
 Blue-throated Warbler. *Phænicura succica*. One in 1856,  
 "Birds of Somerset"  
 Redstart. *P. ruticilla*. Common. Summer  
 Black Redstart. *P. tithys*. Rare. Generally Autumn  
 and Winter  
 Stonechat. *Saxicola rubicola*. Common. Rather local.  
 Resident  
 Whinchat. *S. rubetra*. Not so common. Local. Summer.  
 Wheatear. *S. ænanthe*. Common. Local. Summer  
 Grasshopper Warbler. *Salicaria locustella*. Rather rare.  
 Local. Summer  
 Sedge Warbler. *S. phragmitis*. Common. Local. Summer.  
 Reed Warbler. *S. arundinacea*. Rather rare. Local.  
 Summer  
 Nightingale. *Philomela lusciniæ*. Common. Local.  
 Summer  
 Blackcap. *Curruca atricapilla*. Common. Summer  
 Garden Warbler. *C. hortensis*. Rather rare. Local.  
 Summer  
 White-throat. *C. cinerea*. Common. Summer  
 Lesser White-throat. *C. sylviella*. Rather rare. Local.  
 Summer

Wood Warbler. *Sylvia sibilatrix*. Common. Local.  
Summer

Willow Warbler. *S. trochilus*. Common. Summer.

Chiff Chaff. *S. rufa*. Common. Summer

Golden-crested Wren. *Regulus cristatus*. Common.  
Resident

Wren. *Troglodytes europæus*. Common. Resident

#### PARIDÆ.

Greater Tit. *Parus major*. Common. Resident

Blue Tit. *P. cæruleus*. Common. Resident

Cole Tit. *P. ater*. Common. Resident

Marsh Tit. *P. palustris*. Common. Resident

Long-tailed Tit. *P. caudatus*. Common. Resident

Bearded Tit. *Calamophilus biarmicus*. Said to have  
been found near Bridgwater years ago ; Mr. Baker's  
notes, not published

#### AMPELIDÆ.

Bohemian Wax-wing. *Bombycilla garrula*. Rare. Oc-  
casional. Winter

#### MOTACILLIDÆ.

Pied Wagtail. *Motacilla yarrellii*. Common. Resident

Grey Wagtail. *M. boarula*. Common. Rather local.  
Generally Winter

Grey-headed Wagtail. *M. neglecta*. Rare. Occasional

Ray's Wagtail. *M. flava*. Common. Summer

#### ANTHIDÆ.

Tree Pipit. *Anthus arboreus*. Common. Summer

Meadow Pipit. *A. pratensis*. Common. Resident

Rock Pipit. *A. petrosus*. Common on coast. Resident

#### CONIROSTRES.

#### ALAUDIDÆ.

Sky Lark. *Alauda arvensis*. Common. Resident



Wood Lark. *A. arborea*. Rather rare. Local. Resident

#### EMBERIZIDÆ.

Snow Bunting. *Plectrophanes nivalis*. Occasional. Winter.

Lark Bunting. *Emberiza miliaria*. Common. Local.  
Resident

Reed Bunting. *E. schæniclus*. Common. Resident

Yellow Bunting. *F. citrinella*. Common. Resident

Cirl Bunting. *E. cirrus*. Rather rare. Local. Resident

#### FRINGILLIDÆ.

Chaffinch. *Fringilla cœlebs*. Common. Resident

Brambling. *F. montifringilla*. Common. Winter

Serin Finch. *F. serinus*. One, Taunton, January or  
February, 1866, "Birds of Somerset"

Tree Sparrow. *Passer montanus*. Rather rare. Local.  
Resident

House Sparrow. *P. domesticus*. Common. Resident

Greenfinch. *Coccothraustes chloris*. Common. Resident

Hawfinch. *C. vulgaris*. Rather rare. Winter

Goldfinch. *Carduelis elegans*. Common. Resident

Siskin. *C. spinus*. Common. Winter

Common Linnet. *Linota cannabina*. Common. Resident

Lesser Redpole. *L. linaria*. Common. Winter

Bullfinch. *Pyrrhula vulgaris*. Common. Resident

Common Crossbill. *Loxia curvirostra*. Occasional in flocks

#### STURNIDÆ.

Starling. *Sturnus vulgaris*. Common. Resident

Rose-coloured Pastor. *Pastor roseus*. One near Taunton,  
June, 1835, not recorded. One at Laverton, July, 1869,  
"Zoologist," S.S. p. 1866

#### CORVIDÆ.

Chough. *Fregilus graculus*. Almost extinct in Somerset.

Local. Would be resident

- Raven. *Corvus corax*. Rather rare. Local. Resident  
 Carrion Crow. *C. corone*. Common. Resident  
 Hooded Crow. *C. cornix*. Rare. Occasional. Winter  
 Rook. *C. frugilegus*. Common. Resident  
 Jackdaw. *C. monedula*. Common. Resident  
 Magpie. *Pica caudata*. Common. Resident  
 Jay. *Garrulus glandarius*. Common. Resident  
 Nutcracker. *Nucifraga caryocatactes*. One near Bridg-  
 water, 1805, Montagu

## SCANSORES.

## PICIDÆ.

- Green Woodpecker. *Picus viridis*. Common. Resident  
 Great Spotted Woodpecker. *P. major*. Rather rare.  
 Local. Resident  
 Lesser Spotted Woodpecker. *P. minor*. More common  
 in places. Local. Resident  
 Wryneck. *Yunx torquilla*. Common. Summer

## CERTHIADÆ.

- Creeper. *Certhia familiaris*. Common. Resident  
 Hoopoe. *Upupa epops*. Very rare. Occasional. Summer  
 Nuthatch. *Sitta europæa*. Common. Resident

## CUCULIDÆ.

- Cuckoo. *Cuculus canorus*. Common. Summer

## FISSIROSTRES.

## NEROPIDÆ.

- Roller. *Coracias garula*. One near Orchard Portman,  
 no date, "Birds of Somerset."

## HALCYONIDÆ.

- Kingfisher. *Alcedo ispida*. Common. Resident

## HIRUNDINIDÆ.

- Swallow. *Hirundo rustica*. Common. Summer

Martin. *H. urbica*. Common. Summer

Sand Martin. *H. riparia*. Common. Summer

Swift. *Cypselus apus*. Common. Summer

Alpine Swift. *C. alpinus*. One near Axbridge, "Proceedings" of this Society for 1851, "Birds of Somerset"

#### CAPRIMULGIDÆ.

Nightjar. *Caprimulgus europæus*. Common. Summer

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### RASORES.

#### COLUMBIDÆ.

Wood Pigeon. *Columba palumbus*. Common. Resident

Stock Dove. *C. ænas*. Rather rare. Resident

Rock Dove. *C. livia*. A few at Weston. Resident.  
"Birds of Somerset"

Turtle Dove. *C. turtur*. Common. Summer

#### PHASIANIDÆ.

Pheasant. *Phasianus colchicus*. Common where preserved

#### TETRAONIDÆ.

Black Grouse. *Tetrao tetrix*. Common. Local. Resident

Partridge. *Perdix cinerea*. Common. Resident

Quail. *Coturnix vulgaris*. Rather rare. Occasional

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### GRALLATORES.

#### STRUTHIONIDÆ.

Great Bustard. *Otis tarda*. One probable, Sep. 27th, 1870, near Shapwick, Mr. Harting in the "Field"

#### CHARADRIADÆ.

Thick-knee. *Ædicnemus crepitans*. Rare. Occasional

Golden Plover. *Charadrius pluvialis*. Common. Local.  
Partially resident

Dotterel. *C. morinellus*. Rare. Local. Summer

Ring Dotterel. *C. hiaticula*. Common on coast. Resident  
 Sanderling.\* *Calidris arenaria*. Occasional on coast  
 Gray Plover. *Squatarola cinerea*. Common on coast.  
 Winter

Peewit. *Vanellus cristatus*. Common. Local. Partially  
 resident

Turnstone. *Streptilus interpres*. Common on coast.  
 Generally Winter

Oystercatcher. *Hæmatopus ostralegus*. Common on coast.  
 Resident

## GRUIDÆ.

Common Crane. *Grus cinerea*. One Oct. 1865, Stolford,  
 "Birds of Somerset"

## ARDEIDÆ.

Heron. *Ardea cinerea*. Common. Resident

Squacco Heron. *A. comata*. Very rare. Yarrell. "Birds  
 of Somerset"

Little Bittern. *Botaurus minutus*. Rare. Occasional.  
 Generally Autumn

Bittern. *B. stellaris*. Becoming rare. Generally Autumn  
 to Spring

Night Heron. *Nycticorax gardeni*. Said to have been  
 killed near Bridgwater, Mr. Baker's notes, not pub-  
 lished

Black Stork. *Ciconia nigra*. One, Sedge Moor, May,  
 1814, Montagu†

White Spoonbill. *Platalea leucorodia*. One, Sedge Moor,

\* I have never found this bird on our coast myself, but Mr. Gurney informs me his father found it at Minehead, and Mr. Matthews pointed me out one at Weston in a small collection which was said to have been shot there. It is included also in Mr. Baker's list.

† Montagu's Dictionary by Newman, p. 327.

Nov. 1813. One, Curry Moor, Skull and Beak in the Museum of the Society.

Glossy Ibis. *Ibis falcinellus*. One Autumn of 1859 or 1860, "Birds of Somerset"

#### SCOLOPACIDÆ.

Curlew. *Numenius arquata*. Common on coast in Winter. Partially resident

Whimbrel. *N. phæopus*. Common on coast. Spring and Autumn

Spotted Redshank. *Totanus fuscus*. Rare. Occasional. Generally Autumn

Common Redshank. *T. calidris*. Common. Mostly on coast. Autumn and Spring

Green Sandpiper. *T. ochropus*. Common. Local. Mostly Summer

Wood Sandpiper. *T. glareola*. One, Cheddon, May, 1870, "Zoologist" for 1871, S.S. p. 2441. Cecil Smith

Common Sandpiper *T. Hypoleucos*. Common. Local. Summer

Greenshank. *T. glottis*. Occasional. Spring and Summer

Black-tailed Godwit. *Limosa melanura*. Rare. Occasional

Bar-tailed Godwit. *L. rufa*. Common. Mostly on coast. Autumn and Winter

Ruff. *Machetes pugnax*. Becoming rare. Local. Mostly Autumn and Winter

Woodcock. *Scolopax rusticola*. Common. Local. Winter. A few occasionally remaining to breed

Great Snipe. *S. major*. Rare. Local. Autumn.

Common Snipe. *S. gallinago*. Common. Winter. A few remaining to breed

Jack Snipe. *S. gallinula*. Common. Winter

Curlew Sandpiper. *Tringa subarquata*. Occasional on coast. Winter

Knot. *T. canutus*. Common on coast. Winter

Little Stint. *T. minuta*. Rare. Occasional\*

Temminck's Stint. *T. temminckii*. A small flock at the mouth of the Brue, Sept. 1805. Montagu

Purre or Dunlin. *T. variabilis*. Very common on coast.

Purple Sandpiper. *T. maritima*. Rather rare. On coast. Winter

Grey Phalarope. *Phalaropus lobatus*. Occasional in considerable numbers. Mostly Autumn.

#### RALLIDÆ.

Landrail. *Crex pratensis*. Common. Summer

Spotted Crake. *C. porzana*. Common. Local. Probably resident

Baillon's Crake. *C. baillonii*. Priory Fields, Taunton, October, 1870

Water Rail. *Rallus aquaticus*. Common. Resident

Moorhen. *Gallinula chloropus*. Common. Resident.

#### LOBIPEDIDÆ.

Coot. *Fulica atra*. Common. Local. Resident

### NATATORES.

#### ANATIDÆ.

Bean Goose. *Anser segetum*. Occasional. Winter

White-fronted Goose. *A. albifrons*. Occasional. Winter

Bernicle Goose. *A. leucopsis*. One near Bridgwater, Feb. 1809, Montagu

Brent Goose. *A. brenta*. Common. Mostly coast. Winter

Egyptian Goose. *A. ægyptiacus*. Rather rare. Occasional

Hooper or Wild Swan. *Cygnus ferus*. Occasional. Winter

\* Mr. Baker in his unpublished notes says it has been met with and recorded.

- Bewick's Swan. *C. bewickii*. Occasional. Winter  
 Mute Swan. *C. olor*. Resident. Tame  
 Sheldrake or Burrow Duck. *Anas tadorna*. Common  
 on coast. Resident  
 Shoveller. *A. clypeata*. Occasional. Generally Spring—  
 may remain to breed  
 Gadwall. *A. strepera*. Rare. Occasional  
 Pintail. *A. acuta*. Common. Winter  
 Wild Duck. *A. boschas*. Common in Winter. Partially  
 resident  
 Garganey. *A. querquedula*. Rather rare. Occasional  
 Teal. *A. crecca*. Common. Winter  
 Wigeon. *A. penelope*. Common. Winter  
 Common Scoter. *Oidemia nigra*. Occasional on coast.  
 Winter  
 Pochard. *Fuligula ferina*. Common. Winter.  
 Scaup Duck. *F. marila*. Common on coast. Winter  
 Tufted Duck. *F. cristata*. Common. Winter  
 Golden Eye. *F. clangula*. Rather rare, especially in adult  
 plumage. Winter  
 Smew. *Mergus albellus*. Rare, especially in adult  
 plumage. Winter  
 Red-breasted Merganser. *M. serrator*. Rare. Occasional.  
 Generally immature. Winter  
 Goosander. *M. merganser*. Occasional. Winter

## COLYMBIDÆ.

- Great Crested Grebe. *Podiceps cristatus*. Rare. Occasional  
 Red-necked Grebe. *P. rubricollis*. One, North Curry,  
 Feb. 16th, 1871, "Zoologist" for 1871, S.S. p. 2563.  
 Cecil Smith  
 Slavonian Grebe. *P. cornutus*. Rare. Occasional.  
 Mostly Winter

Dabchick. *P. minor*. Common. Resident

Great Northern Diver. *Colymbus glacialis*. Rare.  
Occasional

Red-throated Diver.\* *C. septentrionalis*. Rare. Occasional

#### ALCADÆ.

Guillemot. *Uria troile*. Occasional stragglers on coast

Black Guillemot. *U. grylle*. One near St. Audries.  
"Birds of Somerset"

Little Auk. *Mergulus melanoleucos*. Rare. Occasional.  
Mostly November

Puffin. *Fratercula arctica*. Occasional stragglers on coast

Razor Bill. *Alca torda*. Occasional stragglers on coast.

#### PELECANIDÆ.

Cormorant. *Phalacrocorax carbo*. Rare. One Bridgwater,  
1808. Montagu.

Gannet. *Sula alba*. Occasional on coast. Generally  
immature

#### LARIDÆ.

Common Tern. *Sterna hirundo*. Occasional. Generally  
Spring or Autumn

Arctic Tern. *S. arctica*. Occasional. Generally Spring  
or Autumn

Lesser Tern. *S. minuta*. Occasional. Generally Spring  
or Autumn

Black Tern. *S. fissipes*. Occasional. Generally Spring  
or Autumn

Sabine's Gull. *Larus sabini*. Rare. Occasional on  
coast. Always in immature plumage

Little Gull. *L. minutus*. Occasional. on coast. Mostly  
in immature plumage, and in Autumn

\* One of these birds was picked up dead near Bishops Hull in  
March 1868.



Black-headed Gull. *L. ridibundus*. Occasionally numerous.

Mostly in immature or Winter plumage.

Kittiwake. *L. tridactylus*. Common on coast.

Ivory Gull. *L. eberneus*. Very rare. Occasional. One at Weston-super-mare. "Zoologist" for 1865, Rev. M. A. Matthew

Common Gull. *L. lanus*. Common on coast. Mostly Autumn to Spring

Lesser Black-backed Gull. *L. fuscus*. Not very common. Coast

Herring Gull. *L. argentatus*. Common on coast

Great Black-backed Gull. *L. marinus*. On coast, but rather scarce

Glaucous Gull. *L. glaucus*. Rare. Occasional on coast. mostly Autumn or Winter, and immature

Pomarine Skua.\* *Lestris pomarinus*. Rare. Occasional

Richardson's Skua. *L. richardsonii*. Rare. Occasional

Buffon's Skua. *L. buffonii*. One near Ninehead, October 1862. "Zoologist" for 1863, p. 8448, the Rev. M. A. Matthew

Fulmar Petrel. *Procellaria glacialis*. Rare. Occasional. Mostly Autumn or Winter. On coast

Fork-tailed Petrel. *Thalassidroma leachii*. Rare. Occasional. Generally Autumn

Storm Petrel. *T. pelagica*. Rare. Occasional. Generally Autumn

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\* I have a young bird of the year in my collection said to have been one of a pair killed at Minehead.

# Chief Justice Dyer.

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BY WM. ARTHUR JONES, M.A. F.G.S.

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**A**MONG the great men this County of Somerset has produced, Sir James Dyer, Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, occupied a high and distinguished position. His eminence as a lawyer, and his integrity as a judge, gained the reverence of his cotemporaries, and secured for his memory the respect of succeeding generations. The meeting of this Society in the locality which gave him birth would seem to present a fit and proper occasion for the following brief biographical notice.

The family of Dyer, Dier, or Dyar from which the subject of our memoir was descended, became possessed of the Manor of Sharpham on the dissolution of the Monastery of Glastonbury and of Roundhill on the dissolution of the Monastery of Taunton. Sir Thomas Dyer held Sharpham, and his cousin Richard Dyer held Roundhill, near Wincanton. The estimation in which the former was held, may be inferred from his being associated with the Bishop of Bath and Wells, Sir Hugh Paulet, and Sir John St. Loo, in a royal precept issued by order of King Edward VI, to provide for, and sustain, certain foreign weavers who had been brought into Glastonbury by the Duke of

Somerset.\* According to the Parliamentary returns, Sir Thomas Dyer was chosen as member of Parliament for the borough of Bridgwater in the first year of Queen Elizabeth's reign.

Sir Thomas Dyer married the daughter of Lord Poynings to his second wife, and their eldest son Sir Edward Dyer, Knight, and Chancellor of the Garter, was a prominent member of the Court of Queen Elizabeth, distinguished alike for his courtly manners, and literary tastes. He was the intimate friend and associate of Sir Philip Sydney. A cotemporary says of him as a poet—"Maister Edward Dyar, for elegie, most solempe and of high conceit." He seems also to have established a character for statesmanship and diplomacy, as we find that he was chosen a member of Parliament for the County of Somerset in the 30th of Elizabeth, when Alexander Popham and Robert Blake (the grandfather of the Admiral), were elected for Bridgwater; and also, that in 1596 he was sent as Ambassador to Denmark by the Queen.

His cousin, Sir James Dyer, was a man cast in a different mould: less courtly possibly in his deportment, but leaving behind him a reputation far more distinguished and lasting. His father Richard Dyer, described in the *Heralds' Visit-*

\* The following is an extract from the original in the Public Records Office. Edward VI.

To our very good the Bishop of Bath and Wells, to our very loving friends Sr Hugh Polet, Sr John St. Loo: Sr Thos. Dyer, knight.

Whereas the Duke of Somerset hath caused certain straungers to repaire to Glastonbury, promising them houses, grounds, and certain other reliefs towards their lyving, . . . the said straungers being very honest and godly poor people, . . . very ready and willing to teache young children, . . . their trade and occupations, . . . Our pleasure is you shall appoint a Parcke called Orwell Parcke near Glastonbury, to be occupyed and enjoyed by those strangers, . . . and when they require great sommes of money for the provision of Wolles for the year, &c. His Majesty's pleasure is you shall &c.

ation as of Roundhill, married into the family of Walton, probably the daughter of William Walton of Shapwick, a near neighbour of his relative Sir Thomas Dyer\* of Sharpham.

The elder son, John Dyer, was destined to succeed to his father's estate of Roundhill, and the younger son James, afterwards Lord Chief Justice, had the good fortune to be obliged to make his own way in the world. At the early age of sixteen years, as was usual in those times, he was sent to Oxford, and according to tradition, for the early records of that hall are lost, he was entered as a commoner of Broadgate Hall, now Pembroke College.† From Oxford he removed to London, and entered Strand Inn, of the Middle Temple, as a student. At what age he was called to the bar is not exactly known. Judging from the notes of cases which he made, and which were subsequently published, there is every reason to fix the 28th of Hen. VIII (A.D. 1537) as the year. He would at that time be in the 26th year of his age. His name first appears as an advocate in the King's Bench, before Judge Spylman and Judge Portman, in a case of outlawry, when Dyer himself reports, "Et exception fuit pris p James Dyer pur le Roy."‡ In the following year his name again appears as advocate in a case in which the validity of the array was

\* On the 7th Nov. 38<sup>o</sup> Hen. VIII, "William Walton of Shapwike, gent. Deputye Steward" delivered to Thomas Dyer, Esquir, the Deeds and Charters of the Manor of Greyngton which he had purchased from the King on the dissolution of Glastonbury Abbey. See Warner's Glastonbury, Appendix, p. lxix.

† In Wood's *Athenæ*, Sir James Dyer is described as the 2nd son of Rich. Dyer of *Wymaulton* in Somersetshire, by his wife dau. of . . . Waiton of the said Co'. Wymaulton is evidently a clerical error for Wyncaulton, and Waiton for Walton. *Athenæ*, i, 480.

‡ See Reports : De Term. Pasch. Ano 28. Hen. VIII.

questioned on the ground of near relationship of the High Sheriff Sir Geo. Darcy to the defendant.\*

With characteristic minuteness he enters in his notes that on the 19 May, Anno Domini 1552, he received the royal brief requiring him to prepare himself to take and enter upon the post and degree of Serjeant-at-Law the following Michaelmas term.† Meanwhile according to custom, he fulfils the office of Autumnal Reader to the Society of the Middle Temple, and in due course he became Serjeant-at-Law, Michaelmas Term 6° Edward VI.

On the first of the following January, writs were issued for the Second Parliament of Edward VI, to meet on the 1st of March. The Official Return in the Public Records Office shows that on the 26th of January James Dyer, Serjeant-at-Law, and Edward North, Knight, were duly elected to serve as Knights of the Shire for the County of Cambridge, Sir Giles Alington being Sheriff.‡ His election for Cambridgeshire may perhaps have been in part due to his marriage with the widow of Sir Thomas Elyot, the author of the "Booke of the Govenour" who had resided at Carleton in this county. Lady Elyot was the daughter of Sir Maurice A'Barrow of North Barrow, Co. Somerset, and was no doubt well known to him as a neighbour in his youth.

The Parliament duly assembled on the 1st of March, the King's health requiring the greatest care and precaution during the formal opening. On the following day, to adopt

\* Idem De Term. Mich. An° 29. Hen. VIII.

† Idem De Term. Mich. An° 6. Edw. VI.

‡ Indentura fact' apud Castru' Cantabrigie in Com' Cant' vicesimo die Januarii an° R. Edwardi Sexti d. g. &c. sexto, int'r Egidium Alington militem vic' Com' pred', &c. et Phylp Parrys &c. . . . elegerunt Edwardum North, militem et Jacobum Dyer S'vientem ad legem milites gladiis cinctos &c. &c.

the quaint wording of the Journal of the House of Commons, "On Thursday 2<sup>o</sup> Martii, was chosen to be Speaker first nominate by Mr. Treasurer of the King's House, the Right Worshipful Mr. James Dyer, one of the King's Majestie's Servients at the Law, and set in the chair."\* It will be observed that the nomination of the Speaker at that time would seem to have been practically vested in the crown. The Parliament was of brief duration : in fact, it only sat for one month, for on the 31st of March, being Good Friday, the Parliament was dissolved "at the King's Pallace of Whitehall, at seaven of the clock at night." All that the "Records of Parliament" relate of the Speaker is that he closed as he had begun with an "ornate oration before the King." This was the only Parliament in which James Dyer sat, and the rest of his life was devoted exclusively to his professional duties.

It is only needful to recall some of the stirring events of that stirring and eventful period in the History of England to be assured that a thoughtful, studious, and conscientious man could not have failed to form clear and decided opinions on the leading questions which at that time engrossed the thoughts of all the nations of Europe. Without approving of the character of Henry VIII, or of his unconstitutional proceedings, James Dyer became a firm and staunch adherent to the principles of the reformed religion. Yet, with his characteristic, calm, and unbiassed judgment of what was legal and just, he strongly opposed that attempt made by Edward VI, at the instigation of Lord Northumberland, to set aside the succession of his sister Mary to the crown. This opinion he expressed, not-

\* In the face of this explicit record it is extraordinary that Lord Campbell should have stated that James Dyer "was elected Speaker, although without the rank of Solicitor-General, or of Sergeant usually considered necessary for that dignity."

withstanding that he had been highly honoured by the King, and in his official capacity had signed the Will of the youthful Monarch as witness.

On the great question of that day, religion, Dyer was opposed to Queen Mary and her immediate adherents, yet, to the honour of Queen and subject alike, it is on record that the appointment of James Dyer, as Queen's Sergeant, was one of the first formal acts of her reign (Oct. 19 1553). He then became Recorder of Cambridge, and in 1556 Puisne Justice of the Common Pleas. In the following year he was made Puisne Justice of the King's Bench, (3 and 4 Phil. and Mary), receiving the oath from Nicholas, Archbishop of York, at that time Chancellor of England,\* and thus retained to the last the confidence and respect of the Sovereign. So highly was Sir James Dyer esteemed by all parties alike, that on the very day following the accession of Queen Elizabeth to the throne his Commission as Puisne Justice of the Common Pleas was renewed. And on the following year he was created Lord Chief Justice.

For more than twenty years he discharged the important functions of his high office with such dignity, diligence, thoughtfulness, and integrity, as to command the respect and reverence of all who knew him. Three months only after his death the poet George Whetstone, "moaved with the passion of a common sorrow," celebrated in verse the "pretious vertues, which governed the good Lord Dyer" with a dedication to Lord Chancellor Bromley. Among

\* Sir James Dyer himself records the appointment in the following terms in his Reports: "Memorandum quod die Jovis sc.' 20 die Maii An<sup>o</sup> Dni 1557 recepi Sacramentum unius Justic' de Banco, a Nicholao Archiepiscopo Eborum, Anglie Ca'cellar', una cum literis patentibus d'norum Regis et Reginae &c : Philippus and Maria d. g. Rex and Regina Angliæ &c. &c. Sciatis qd' co'stituimus dilectum et fidelem nostrum Jacobum Dyer militem unum Justic' nostror' de Communi banco, &c."

the traits of character in private life, Whetstone mentions his fondness for music :

“ For publique good, when care had cloid his minde  
The only joye, for to repose his spright,  
Was musique sweet, which show'd him wel inclin'd :  
For he that dooth in musique much delight  
A conscience hath disposéd to most right :  
The reason is, her sounde within our eare  
A sympathie of heaven we think we heare.”\*

Lord Chief Justice Dyer had his town house in Charter House Churchyard, and his country mansion in Great Stoughton, Huntingdonshire, where he died March 24th, 1582, in the 72nd year of his age. Having left no children his estates were inherited by Laurence Dyer,† the eldest son of his brother John of Roundhill ; but his law books and manuscripts were left to his nephew, Richard Farewell. The distinguished position Sir James Dyer occupied in the legal profession was not without its influence on other members of his family. One of his sisters, Agnes, had married William Rowsell or Rosewell, Solicitor-General to Queen Elizabeth, who resided at Ford Abbey, County of Devon, which he had purchased from Sir Amias Paulet. Another

\* A remembraunce of the pretious vertues of the Right Honourable and Reverend Judge, Sir James Dier, Knight, Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, who disceased at Great Stawghton in Huntingdonshire, the 24th of Marche, Anno 1582.

The reporte of George Whetstones, Gent. *Formâ nulla fides*. Imprinted at London, by John Charlewood.

Dedicated to Lord Chancellor Bromley.

. . . . . I boldlie approach your presence with this simple present, leaving the view thereof to your good Lordship's most convenient leisure, this 17th of Maie, 1582.

Your Honours bounden to do you service.

GEORGE WHETSTONES.

*Frondes Caducae.* Brit. Mus. Library, Press Mark, 644, i, 15.

† The descendants of Laurence Dyer held Great Stoughton for several generations, but became extinct in the male line long before the close of the last century.



sister, Dorothy, had married Simon Farewell of Hills Bishop, near Taunton, whose second son, George Farewell, and his fourth son, Richard, took to the profession of the law. This Richard Farewell, conjointly with his cousin, James Dyer, son of John Dyer of Roundhill, undertook the publication of the careful Reports of Law Cases which their uncle had compiled, and which they dedicated to Lord Chancellor Bromley as their uncle's intimate friend.

The settlement of the Dyers at Roundhill would seem to have led to the removal to this neighbourhood of a branch of the Farewells. John, the eldest son of Simon Farewell and Dorothy Dyer, sister to the Lord Chief Justice, on the death of his father sold the family mansion and estate at Bishops Hull to his second brother, George Farewell, and settled at Holbrook, probably to be near his cousins. This John Farewell, the first of Holbrook, had married the daughter of Thomas Phelips of Montacute, and three of his sons married the three daughters of Brome Johnson, of Bridge, South Petherton.

In the series of shields with armorial bearings (about fifty in number), removed from the old mansion of the Farewells at Hills Bishop, and now in the possession of the writer, there are several which note the alliance of the Dyers ; and among other families may be named : Ewerne, Hannam, Stowell of Cothelstone, and Rodney of Rodney Stoke.

It will be observed that in the old portrait of the Lord Chief Justice, which has hung upon the walls of the Town Hall, at Wincanton, for so many generations, the arms of Dyer are, *or, a chief indented gu.* These are the bearings on the shields to which I have referred. But on an old engraving of Sir James Deyr by Drapentier, the arms are, *sa. 3 goats arg.* According to the Visitation of Huntingdon-

shire, A.D. 1613, these arms were granted to Sir James Deyer by Dethick, Garter King at Arms.

The Rev. Hill Wickham has an old deed of conveyance of property to his family, signed and sealed by Thomas Dyer of Sharpham, on which the *three goats* alone appear. This, however, I conceive is an impression of the seal, not of Sir Thomas Dyer, but of his kinsman Sir James Dyer. Over the entrance to the old mansion, and on the monuments in the church of Bishops Hull, the only Dyer bearings which occur are, *or, a chief gules*. I mention these facts in order to prevent it being supposed that these different armorial bearings prove the families to be distinct from each other.

The volume of reports, compiled by Sir James Dyer, is valuable and curious.\* Apart from the interest which attaches to the strange and grotesque admixture of Norman French, Dog-latin and Old English, in which the reports are embodied, the cases themselves often throw great light upon the history of families and estates in this and other counties, and the judgments recorded embody principles which are recognised and adopted by our judges to the present day. The manuscript of these reports was left by will to his two nephews, Richard Farewell and James Dyer, by their "most dear and loving uncle," for their own private instruction and benefit, and it was only at the earnest solicitation of the leading members of the bar in those days that they were prevailed upon to publish them.

\* Les REPORTS des divers select matters et Resolutions des Reverend Judges et Sages del LEY touchant et concernant mults principal points occurrent estre debate per eux : en le several Regnes de les tres-hault et excellent Princes, le Roys Hen. VIII, et Edw. VI and le Roignes Mar. et Eliz.

Collect et Report per tres-reverend Judge Sr JAQUES DYER Chivaler : Jades Chief Justice del Common Banke en le temps du Roigne Elizabeth,

The estimation in which these Reports were held may be inferred from the fact that they were successively reprinted in the years 1585, 1592, 1601, 1621, 1672, and 1688, and I believe they are still referred to in cases bearing on old customs and charters. Judging from the tone and character of the address to the "students of the common laws," and especially to "our Masters the Benchers and Fellow-students of the Middle Temple," prefixed to this volume of reports, we may safely infer that the nephews were not unworthy of their distinguished relative, and possessed the same seriousness and earnestness of purpose. In these words they conclude their address:—"Thus most heartily wishing that the reading of this Work may redound to no less profit and knowledge of them that be Students therein, than was meant and intended unto us by the last and best Will of our most natural and loving Uncle, we commit you to the direction of God's holy Spirit." Among the odes or elegies prefixed to the first edition of this work there is one which embodies in clear and most expressive terms, the estimation in which Sir James Dyer was held both as a judge and a Christian. It is by Gabriel Goodman.

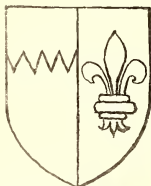
Hunc obiisse putem ? minime. Qui tam bene vixit  
Non obiit, nec obire potest, sed vivet in ævum  
Cum Christo cœlis, in terris ore virorum.

"And can I think a man like him can die? Not so. He who has lived a life so good dies not, and never can, but lives for aye in heaven with Christ, on earth on the lips of men."

Of such a man, so truly good and great, Wincanton and the County of Somerset may well be proud. May his memory be long cherished here and elsewhere, and may his bright example fill the rising generation in your midst with

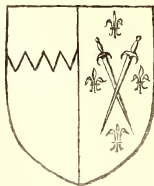


1.



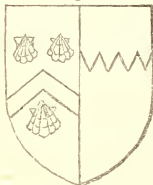
*Rich<sup>d</sup> Dyer—Walton.*

2.



*Sir James Dyer—A'Barrow.*

3.



*Simon Farewell—Dyer.*

4.



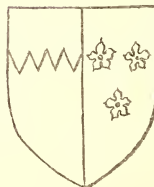
*Wm. Rowsell—Dyer.*

5.



*Rich<sup>d</sup> Farewell—Frie.*

6.



*James Dyer—Cheeke.*

the praiseworthy ambition to strive for like distinction by pursuing the same path of unwearied diligence and inviolable integrity. And when the inhabitants of this ancient town look up upon the too imperfect delineation of the features of their distinguished fellow-parishioner in that picture in their Town Hall, let them bear in mind the words of Wheatstone, a cotemporary of the Lord Chief Justice, who in reference to him said :—

“ Alive, refuge of those whom wrong did payne,  
A DYER, such as dy'de without a stayne.”

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The Armorial Bearings given on the accompanying plate are copied from the series of shields formerly in the family mansion of the Farewells at Bishops Hull, near Taunton.

No 1 gives the arms of Richard Dyer of Roundhill, near Wincanton, (the father of Chief Justice Dyer) who married . . . Walton : *or, a chief indented gu.* for Dyer, and *ar, a fleur-de-lis gu.* for Walton.

No 2 the arms of Lord Chief Justice Dyer ; *or, a chief indented gu.* impaling *sa, 2 swords in saltyre ar, betw. 4 fleurs-de-lis or,* for his wife, Margaret A'Barrow.

No 3 the arms of Simon Farewell, (the second of that name of Bishops Hull), *sa. a chevron betw. 3 escallops ar.* impaling those of his wife Dorothy dau. of Richard Dyer of Roundhill.

No 4 the arms of William Rowsell or Rosewell of Ford Abbey, (Solicitor General to Queen Elizabeth), *per pale gu. and az. a lion rampant tail forked arg.* impaling those of his wife Agnes dau. of Richard Dyer.

for Frie, *Arg. 3 hobbies courant in pile gu.* He was co-editor with his cousin James Dyer of their uncle's Reports.

No 6 gives the arms of the above named James Dyer, younger son of John Dyer of Roundhill, who married Jane dau. of . . . Cheeke: Dyer impaling *arg, 3 cinque foils gu.* for Cheeke.

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# Poyntington.

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BY THE REV. J. HEALE.

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I THINK it cannot be uninteresting to the Somersetshire Archæological Society to have some particulars laid before it of even one of the remotest and most obscure villages of the county. With your permission I will speak of Poyntington, which, little known as it now is, was at one period of its history not without some degree of comparative importance. And though my little village has not the claim which others have to the honor of a visit from your Society, it yet retains some relics of its ancient state which are not altogether unworthy of an antiquarian's notice. I beg permission to bring these before the Society, with the recently discovered indication of that which I have referred to ; and I will do this with as much brevity as possible.

Although its population is numerically very small, and the number of houses in it is now little more than a score, there are records, as well as traditions, which prove that Poyntington was, about 200 years ago, a populous and a much larger village. Not unfrequently the foundations of old dwellings, larger than the majority of the existing houses, have been met with even during the present century,



in the south-east corner of the parish, where it adjoins the county of Dorset.

It is believed to have been, at a very early date, a favourite resort of the old Monks of the neighbouring Abbey of Sherborne. At any rate, the "Monks' fish pond"—an extensive, and still a most clearly and distinctly defined artificial reservoir—marks the place whence, on the old Church's Fast-days as well as Festivals, was drawn a supply for some of the bodily comforts of those good old devotees, for the repose of whose souls we are called upon to pray, at Osborne and elsewhere.

Amongst the remains of the ancient village, two good examples of domestic architecture are to be seen. Especially worthy of notice is the old Manor House, date about the middle of the 15th century—memorable amongst other things as having been the residence, in the 17th century, of Sir Thomas Malet, one of the Judges of the King's Bench, who, for his loyalty and adherence to the cause of his royal master, suffered very severely in both purse and person.\*

From those days of civil discord dates the time of Poyntington's decline.

In June, 1645, when Parliamentary troops were in the neighbourhood of Sherborne, and probably en route for Wincanton, a fierce engagement took place between the loyal villagers of Poyntington and a strong force of the Roundhead soldiers, in which Baldwin, the second son of Sir Thomas, lost his life "in the King's service." The scene of the fiercely fought battle, in which he and a large number of combatants fell, is just beyond the limits of the

\* Sir Thomas was thrown into the Tower where he remained until the Restoration; his wife, Dame Malet, had her wedding ring taken from her, and, for the remainder of her days wore a horn one, which is represented in the family picture, still preserved at Willaton House, Wiltshire.

parish (within the borders of Dorset), where are still to be seen many mounds marking the graves of those who fell in the contest. To this very day that battle-field is to the villagers of Poyntington and Osborne a place of dread as the shades of night draw on, and very few indeed of either village are bold enough to pass alone near to the spot where headless men and one headless woman are said to be seen in troops, about the time which Disraeli terms "the witching hour of two." And to this very day also my village children listen with trembling hearts and bated breath to the fireside tales in which are handed down, from generation to generation, the deeds of valour done by their village ancestors ; and especially by that Knight—the son of the great judge who lived in the big house—who is said to have leaped into the battle over the gate dividing the two counties ; leaping on horseback with all his armour on right into the midst of the fight, and, after killing more than a score, to have been within an hour brought back dead to his father's house, and, for fear of the plague, to have been buried the very next day—a fact which is confirmed in the old parish register, to which I shall presently refer.

Passing, however, from secular to ecclesiastical subjects, there are two remains yet existing in excellent preservation of the original Norman church, which occupied the site of the present somewhat dilapidated building of the Decorated period—date perhaps from 1320 to 1350. These Norman remains are worthy of notice—the north doorway of, most probably, the 12th century, with a singular excision on the east capital, supposed to have been used for the hanging of a lamp on Saints' days ; and the original font, with cable moulding ; good specimens both. The doorway, with its flat, unsculptured lintel, indicates a date probably prior

to any of the Norman work found in Sherborne Abbey.

Passing now over many centuries, and coming to recent facts :—

In the years 1844 and 1845, whilst engaged in clearing away a heap of refuse which defiled a portion of the floor of my church, and which seemed to have been accumulated by an infinite number of generations of village sextons, and whilst removing, at the same time, a thickness of many inches of yellow and of whitewash, which entirely concealed the very fine mouldings which can now be seen in all their beauty, these discoveries were made which brought to light again some objects of interest, about which I may be permitted to make some brief remarks.

The first discovery made was that of the old Parish Register, buried beneath more than a foot of soil and rubbish and in apparently a completely rotten state. With extreme care and caution, which were necessary, for more than 12 months before, leaf by leaf the manuscript was dried, and brought to the state in which I have the pleasure of showing it to day. It dates from the year 1618, and contains many very interesting entries.

The second discovery was that of a fine piscina, in a very unusual position, forming a part of the east face of one of the piers separating the nave and the aisle. Above the piscina was an exceedingly beautiful and perfect, though very small, mural painting of the Virgin Mary, in the act of giving a blessing. The painting was highly artistic and the colours extremely vivid ; but they began speedily to fade on exposure, and portions of the painting dropped bit by bit from the wall, until in a few days the Virgin's figure was almost obliterated.

Some equally beautiful paintings, but less perfect, were found on the several faces of the other octagonal pier between the nave and the aisle. The most beautiful and

perfect of these represented the Virgin Mother seated on her throne, the infant Jesus on her lap, holding in her right hand a dove, with its head downwards and wings expanded, apparently an offering from a figure kneeling before her, from whose mouth proceeded a legend, of which, however, only small and unconnected portions were plainly visible. On another face of the same pier, adjoining the abovenamed painting, was St. Christopher, whose head and shoulders, staff, and one foot were most distinct and beautiful. On a third face two figures side by side; and on all the faces of the piers small portions of figures were more or less distinct. Above all the paintings, in one of the very fine mouldings of the capitals, were fragments of words, as if the name of each Saint had been painted above him. It is suggested that most probably, as the church is dedicated to All Saints, there were paintings of all the Saints of the calendar, or at least as many as the walls afforded space for.

More recently, whilst taking down, five years ago, a a very old and dilapidated chancel, which has now been replaced by an entirely new building, a few objects of antiquarian interest were brought to light. At the lowest south angle of the east end was met with a very remarkable and very ancient arch, with a radius of from three to four feet, apparently rough Norman work. All attempts to preserve it, or to remove it without destroying it, I regret to say, utterly failed. No other surmise could be made as to its original purpose than that it was the entrance to an old burial place beneath the ancient chancel. The earliest recorded burial in it is that of Dame Stuckley, who died in 1402, but the arch referred to was apparently of a much earlier date.

In the foundations and walls of the old building was found a very large number of fragments of encaustic tiles,

indicating that the preceding edifice had been richly ornamented with tile-pavement. To a very few of those fragments—exhibited in the Local Museum—I venture to invite the Society's attention, soliciting at the same time some information which I am desirous to obtain as to the presence in my parish of some of the armorial bearings—that of Clare for example—but especially of a hunting scene, and of a knight in armour on horseback. I may be permitted to say that the authorities of the South Kensington Museum have expressed their desire to become possessed of the fragments representing the hunting scene. Some members of your Society will, doubtless, be able to throw some light upon the subject. If I mistake not, King John had a hunting seat not far from Milborne Port, and possibly the representation of the hunt, together with that of the royal arms, may be traced to, and commemorative of, that fact.

I shall trouble you, Mr. President, with only one sentence more. In my church tower are three bells ; one bears the modern date of 1770, with, of course, the names of the then churchwardens. Another, without a word to the churchwardens' glory, bears the inscription 'An.no Do.mi.ni, 1595.' The oldest has on it the simple but suggestive legend, 'Maria.'

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The following are the Armorial Bearings on the tiles referred to :

De Albini or Daubney, *a fess fusilly, each fusil charged with an escallop* : Stanton of Whitestanton, *fretty. gu. and or* : Beauchamp of Hatch Beauchamp, *vair* : also fragments of *3 leopards in pile*, *a lion rampant*, and of initial letters.

An interesting notice of Pavement Tiles with Heraldic Bearings existing in Somersetshire churches was contributed by Mr. Lewis Way, to the Proceedings of the Archaeological Institute, Bristol, 1851, p. 262. The first coat named above does not occur in his list. Ed.

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# Somerset.

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BY REV. WILLIAM BARNES, B.D.

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THE word *Somer*, in *Somerset*, is not of clear meaning, as it does not show whether it means the *summer* season or aught else than summer, since it is not clear why *Somerset* is more a land of *summer* than Devon or Dorset, but I think we may get an insight into its meaning and use from the old British speech, the Welsh.

The Welsh call Somerset, *y Gwlad yr Hâf*—the District of *Hâf*; but the primary meaning of *Hâf* is fullness—as of good, or of the produce of the earth for men and cattle, or of cattle for men, or fertility and fullness. Then again Summer is called *y Pryd yr Hâf*—the season of fullness, or in short, *yr Hâf*. Now I think that *Gwlad yr Hâf* should be taken in its first meaning—as the land of fertility rather than the land of *summer*, and that it was called Somerset from a taking of the wrong, instead of the true, one of the two meanings of the word *Hâf*. The Severn is, in British, the *Hâfren*, which might be *Hâfrîn*, the stream of fertility or fertile land. It may, however, be that *Somerset* may have taken its name from *Somerton*, the place of its old Shiremote, and that, as it has been hinted by Mr. John Price of Long Ashton, in a paper which he

has shown me, the element *Somer* may bear the same meaning (whatever it may be) as *Somer* in *Somery* (Somerea?) (Leicester); *Somerby*, *Somercoats*, (Lincoln); *Somerford*, (Cheshire and Wilts); *Somerleyton*, (Suffolk); and *Somer-ton*, (Norfolk and Oxford). The word *Somer*, *Sumor*, *Sumur*, *Summer*, is unknown otherwise than as the name of the *soft* season of the year, in the Saxon English that has come down to us.

To the inquiry, whence sprang the Somerset-people, we shall find from the history of the Saxon-English settlements, that, as far as they are of the old Holstein and Sleswick stock, they would have sprung from the settlement of the West Saxons, which began on the shore of Hampshire, under the leaders, Cerdic and Cynric, in 495, and spread slowly down through Hants, Wiltshire, and Dorset, into Somerset, and for some years, if not generations, stayed still at the rivers Parret, and the Upper Ax, which were an understood boundary between the Saxon-English and the British races.

Now, in the seeking of historical light from the British tongue, we must bear in mind that the British spoken here was less the speech-form of the Welsh of our time than that of the Britons of Cornwall, the *Cornoak*, in which, happily, we have some writings in a few old miracle plays; and the Cornoak differs from Welsh, as Somerset may differ from Book-English or the Yorkshire folk-speech.

The river-name *Ax* is the British *Esc* —water or a stream —though the Saxons put the *c* before the *s*, and *ôf esc* made *ecs*. The name of the Parret, I take it, was bestowed on it as the *Boundary* stream; and I think that before the Saxon incoming it was called the *Ton*, a name now left on a branch of it, for the word *Ton* means a wave; and if a Welshman were now to see the *Bore* or tide-wave riding

up the Parret he might cry out, "Wele Ton, Ton fawr." "See a wave, a great wave." And when that part of the *Avon y ton*, the Wave or Bore river, became the partition between the two races, the British might have called it *y Parwet* or *Parwyd*, the partition or boundary.

The Saxon Chronicle calls the Parret or Perret the *Pedred* or *Pedreda*, with a *d* before the *r*, and that still points to the same meaning, as we find that the Cornoak often put a *d*, where the Welsh does not, before a liquid, and said *Pedn* for *Pen*, *Badn* for *Ban*, and so *Pedret* for *Peret*.

In Somerset men, as men of Wessex, there may be a little British blood, though I believe there may be less of it in Somerset than in Dorset. In the little code of King Ina's laws for Wessex, are some for Britons of sundry ranks, and the British names of places in Somerset must have been taken by the Saxons from British lips : whether *Avon*, *Avon*, the river ; the *Brue*, *Briw*, the cut or channel ; *Pen*, *Pen*, a head—hill-head, as in *Pen Zillwood*, *Pen Domer* : *Pill*, a little creek—inlet, as in *Pill*, near *Bristol*, *Huntspill*. Of *Glastonbury* the names and early history are all British, as *Ynys Glas*, the Green-island ; *Ynys Gwydwr*, the Island of the Flowing Water. *Ynys Avallon*, or in a couplet which must I think be as old as the time when it was in British hands, *Ynys Avallach*, the Island of Apple Trees,

"Ynys Fôn sydd bywiach

Felly Ynys Avallach."

"The Isle of Anglesea is healthy,

So also is Glastonbury."

Then another proof that Somerset people are children of the West-Saxon settlers, is that they have, down to the *Ax*, the Wessex folk-speech, for Somerset differs from



Dorset only a little in vowel sounds, while in grammatical form and words it is the same. Below Axminster and the Parret, however, I understand that we should begin to find the Devon folk-speech which, in many points, leaves the old Wessex tongue. But here arises a question, whether the old Somerset people have Belgic blood in their veins. Cæsar tells us that Gaul was holden by three sets of men—the Belgæ, Aquitani, and Galli or Celtæ, and that they differed in speech, ways of life, and laws; and he says that the shore of Britain was holden by incomers from the Belgæ;—and Ptolemy places the Belgæ to the east and north-west of the Durotriges of Dorset, and says that their main towns were *Ischalis* (Ilchester), so called from *Esc*, water or stream; *Hydata Therma*, the hot waters or Bath; and *Wenta* or *Caer Went*, which would be Winchester, the Roman *Venta Belgarum*. Thence we may begin to take the Somerset people as being more or less of Belgic blood. But were the Belgæ Teutonic or Celtic? and were they or were they not off driven along with the Britons? If the Saxons had found here in Somerset a people of Teutonic speech, like the Flemish, and at that time almost Saxon, they would surely have found their coming on a body of Teutonic brethren, worthy of a place in their chronicles; whereas they write only that their fights, in West Britain, were with the *Wealas*, or Foreigners, as they mostly called the Britons; and the names of places over the land holden by the Belgæ, seem to have been only pure Celtic and British.

Again, the homeland of the Belgæ or the *Belgium* of Cæsar's time, was that of the Walloons of our time, and the Walloons hold, on good grounds, that they are the Belgæ of the old Romans; and I have had from Belgium a Grammar and Word-book of the Walloon speech, that I

might see what grounds it affords for making the Belgæ Teutonic or Celtic, and they show that the Walloons are surely not Teutonic, but their speech is one of those forms of folk-speech which were formed of a mingling of a Celtic with the Latin tongue, and I infer that the old Belgæ were Walloons, and, in the main, Celtic, and that in Britain they soon melted into the British race, and were overcome as British before the Saxon settlers, and that the Somerset people are no more Belgic than they are Britons.

The Walloons with their speech hold most of the provinces of Hainault, Namur, Liege, and Luxembourg, all Belgium that is not Flemish. I at one time thought that the softer Z and V for the Book-English S and F might be tokens of the early Belgic as a Flemish speech, but no, it is shown by the Prick of Conscience "Ayenbite of Inwyt" written in 1340, in the Kentish folk-speech, that those clippings belong to the old Saxon of the true Saxon settlements, as they differed from the English ones of the Angles.

The names given by Ptolemy as those of the main towns of the Belgæ are Celtic, and Welsh names; as Wenta, *Caer-went* now Winchester, and there is now a *Caer-went* in Wales: Ischalis, *Caer-Esc*, or *Escor*, the Watery or River Fastness, and *Hydata Therma*, which was *Caer Badon*, and we shall find British Celtic names peeping up over the same land in the Roman Itinerary, and in the map of the West of England at this day, as well as in the Welsh names of some West English towns: *Salisbury*, *Caer-sallog*; *Ambesbury*, *Caer-Caradog*; *Bristol*, *Caerodor*, (*Godor* breach or split in the rock at Clifton).

Names heard by the Saxons from the lips of the Britons, *Avon*, the river; *Briw*, a cut, channel; *Creech*, *Cruc*, *Crug*, a high mound or hillock; *Cadbury*, *Cad*, *Cat*, a

battle, or stronghold; or keep, from *Cadw*, *Catw*, to hold, keep, strive or fight ; Maesbury, *Maes*, a field, or flat ground ; *Caer ar y maes*, the stronghold on the field ground, not *ar y mynydd*, on a hill ridge.

Somersetshire, as there is good ground for believing, had the honor of the first Christian Church in Britain, and it seems most likely that the first Christian Mission was settled at Glastonbury, which became to the British a most hallowed spot, and among those who sent hither that Mission was, I believe, a British lady, Claudia Rufina. St. Paul in his First Epistle to Timothy, iv 21, says, "Eubulus greeteth thee, and Pudens, and Linus, and Claudia," which Claudia was a British lady, a niece or kinswoman of Caractacus, with whom she went to Rome, and was there wedded to a Roman nobleman Pudens. That she was British we are told by Martial, Lib. xi, Epigram 53.

Claudia caeruleis cum sit Rufina Brittannis,

Edita, cur Latiae pectora plebis habes ?

Quale decus formae ! Romanam credere matres

Italides possunt, Athides esse suam.

"Since it happens that thou Claudia hast sprung from skinstained Britons, why holdest thou the heart of the Latins? What comeliness of form ! Roman mothers may believe thee to be Roman, and Greece to be hers."

The Welsh writings give her name as *Gwladys Ruffydd*, of which the Romans made *Claudia Rufina*, and who should be *Linus*, whose name is put by St. Paul between those of the husband and wife, but their son? and Linus was the first or as good as the first, bishop of Rome, and it is very likely that he and his mother Gwladys were promoters of the sending of a Mission to Britain, and no place in Britain would seem to have a better

claim to the first Missionary station than Glastonbury.

It may be asked, is it not much more likely that the first Mission would, like that of Augustine to the English, have begun their work on the eastern shore than down on the west? to which I answer Yes, with nothing to send them to the west. But Caractacus was Tywysog, or Prince of Cornwall, or West Britain, and so Gwladys was a West English lady, and Gwladys might have wished to send the Mission to her own (Gwlad) land.

Of the Somerset folk-speech I would not say much, as it has been handled as well as any man in Somerset or England can treat it by Mr. T. S. Baynes, in a paper which was, I think, written for your Society, and printed in the *Taunton Courier* of Jan. 23, and Jan. 27, 1856; and from thence taken and printed by H. R. H. Prince Lucien Buonaparte as one of his samples of the sundry forms of English folk-speech. His Highness printed only a few copies of it, and it would be well worthy of a place in your transactions if it is not already preserved in print for your members and county people.

I would touch on a point which as it was interesting to Mr. Jennings, who some years ago wrote a word-book of the folk-speech of Somerset, and some poems in that form of West English, would, I think, still be interesting to the Somerset antiquary, namely :—The outgoing of Somerset and Devon men into Ireland as soldiers, and afterwards settlers in the time of Strongbow or Henry II.

General Vallancy had printed in vol. II of the Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy, a paper on the old speech of the Baronies of Forth and Bargy in Wexford, Ireland, and Mr. Jennings, as some of you may know, has given in his notes some verses of a Forth song which he

had found in General Vallancy's book, and which he has shown to have a strong tinge of West English, upon which he thought that the English settlers of the Baronies might have been Wessex men of Somerset and Devon, as I can give further proof that many of them were. I conceived from Mr. Jennings's notes a yearning of mind for more knowledge of the Forth people and their speech, and it became stronger as a late friend, Mr. William Tanner of Bristol, had told me that on his reading of some West English Poems in a village of Somerset, an Irish gentleman told him that he understood them, as he knew something of a like folk-speech in Forth in the county of Wexford. I wished Mr. Tanner to make a summer trip over to Forth, but as he could not then leave home, he wrote to a friend in Ireland, Mr. Webb of Dublin, and so as it happened, to the man whose uncle Mr. Poole from about 1824 to 1825 had gathered a wordstore of the Forth speech, and left it among his other papers. It was sent to me and I have printed it through Mr. J. R. Smith, 36, Soho Square. This Glossary, with General Vallancy's song and some others, would show Mr. Jennings to be right in his opinion that the many men of the Strongbow colony were Wessex men, as we should deem them to have been, inasmuch as the Irish King Dermot Mac Merogh, when he was seeking a force of Englishmen to help him to his throne, stayed some time at Bristol with Strongbow, and there, as we may believe, gathered men of Somerset and Devon, if not Dorset, and to them as to some others elsewhere, Dermot most likely gave lands in Forth and Bargy.

The Forth folk-speech has taken the augment to the past participle, and the soft Z for the book-English S. as "Platheares ee-zet in a row," Platters set in a row.

The numerals are :—Oan, Twye, Dhree, Voure, Veeve Zeese, Zeven, Ayght, Neen, Dhen.

The pronouns give a touch of Devon speech as :—  
'Cham, I am ; 'Chull, I will ; 'Chood, I would.

And many of the words are quite of the West English form : Brazon, Bold ; Brekvast, Breakfast ; Drashel, Threshold ; Koaver, Coffer ; Lear, Empty.

Many of the old Forth surnames were West English ones as :—Carew, Russell, Sutton, Stafford, Rossiter, Turner, Lamport, an old pronunciation of Langport.

*T H E   E N D*





















